

The Gods 1671

[Chapter 1671 - The Sixth Stage](#)

On the Soul Sky Warship, Chi Wuyao and Qianye Ying'er were standing at a patch of shadow beneath a profound formation and staring at each other.

Burning Moon Royal City's core profound formation was being reforged at an extraordinary speed, but the core that fueled it had been changed from the power of the Burning Moon to the power and soul of the Witches.

Just in case the Yama Realm decided to make a move while Burning Moon Royal City's defenses were gone, Chi Wuyao also used the Untamed Divine Marrow she got from the Eternal Heaven God Emperor to restore the core profound formation as quickly as possible.

Hoarded unused treasures were ultimately just trash.

"Is there anything you wish to say to this queen?" Chi Wuyao looked at Qianye Ying'er with a half-smile on her face. She was starting to notice a slight change in her, although she couldn't tell exactly what just yet.

"Why didn't you stop him?" Qianye Ying'er asked stiffly and forcefully.

"Stop him?" Chi Wuyao curled her lips. "Do you really think this queen could've stopped him?"

"Of course you could. Why wouldn't you be able to stop him?" Qianye Ying'er stared at Chi Wuyao intently, looking like she wanted nothing more than to pierce through the impenetrable black fog covering her face and peer into her soul.

Qianye Ying'er might have missed Yun Che leaving the darkness profound ark and returning to the Burning Moon Realm because she was distraught at the time, but there was no way his departure could escape Chi Wuyao notice.

Not only did she not try to stop him, she even pretended that she didn't notice his departure.

And not too long after that, the Soul Sky Warship showed up and rendezvoused with the darkness profound ark... clearly, Chi Wuyao had sent a message to the Soul Stealing Realm and summoned the warship long before Yun Che had decided to return to the Burning Moon Realm.

Chi Wuyao replied without looking away from Qianye Ying'er's eyes, "This queen told you before, didn't she...? She knows him well, that's all."

"Heh." Qianye Ying'er let out a low chuckle. "No one has the right to say that in front of me."

"I do." But Chi Wuyao replied immediately and without any hesitation whatsoever.

"..." Qianye Ying'er frowned deeply at her reply. The weight behind her gaze grew heavier and heavier.

"In fact, I didn't want to stop him. You might even say that I was hoping that he would act like that."

"You were... hoping that he would act like that?" Qianye Ying'er frowned deeply. "Did he tell you about his trump card before!?"

Yun Che once told her that he had a trump card that could kill anyone, and that he was going to give it to the Dragon Monarch during the “final hour”. However, he hadn’t explained exactly how this trump card worked at the time, much less the fact that he could command the Star God origin power, a power that should belong to the Star God Realm only.

“Of course he didn’t. Why would you ever tell anyone about your trump card?” Chi Wuyao said indifferently. “What I mean, is that I wanted him to feel sad, angry and impulsive for you and that child that wasn’t able to be born in this world...”

Qianye Ying’er: “...?”

“I wanted him to act that way because it proves that his heart hasn’t ‘died’ completely. And who knows... maybe it won’t ever ‘die’ again now that it’s been resurrected.”

Qianye Ying’er shivered a little and started seeing Chi Wuyao in a new light.

Seemingly not noticing the change in Qianye Ying’er’s eyes, Chi Wuyao continued. “The reason this queen summoned the Soul Sky Warship even before he returned to the Burning Moon Realm is so that he’d have my protection no matter how bad the situation became.”

“This queen wasn’t expecting such a pleasant surprise, however.”

“It’s been almost a million years since there was anything that could affect the status quo of the Burning Moon Realm, and now it’s ripe for the taking all thanks to him!” A seductive smile spread across Chi Wuyao’s lips. “This achievement alone makes him better than anyone else in the entire history of the God Realm! Who in the world could even begin to compare themselves to him?”

She looked at Qianye Ying’er and smiled even wider. “His fury brought back the might of the True Gods and toppled an entire king realm, and the person who caused all this was you, Yun Qianying. In my opinion as a woman, this is an achievement far more enviable than being known by the entire world as the Brahma Monarch Goddess.”

“For me? Hmph!” Qianye Ying’er snorted, but averted her gaze unconsciously after hearing Chi Wuyao’s praise. “He had always harbored deep regret toward his own daughter, and it just so happened that this incident had brought that regret to the surface. It has... nothing to do with me!”

“Oh? Is that so?” Chi Wuyao narrowed her eyes before smiling. “The reason this queen visited the Burning Moon Realm first was to eliminate any possibility of interference from them when we deal with the Yama Realm, but she never thought that a boon would land right in her lap. To be honest, this queen still feels like she’s dreaming.”

“If he lost his will to die after this, then it would be even better.”

“...” Qianye Ying’er’s golden pupils turned blurry and unfocused.

We’ll have one again in the future...

The future...

Chi Wuyao looked away when she saw the corner of Qianye Ying'er's lips turning up unconsciously. She then asked quietly, "There are still many things waiting for this queen to take care of in the Burning Moon Realm. Are you finished yet?"

"No, I am not." Qianye Ying'er's gaze suddenly turned sharp and icy again. "In fact, you absolutely mustn't miss a single word of what I say starting now!"

"Oh?" Her curiosity seemingly piqued, Chi Wuyao turned partially back toward Qianye Ying'er.

Qianye Ying'er slowly walked up to Chi Wuyao until they were just half a foot away from each other. "Back in the Imperial Heaven Realm, when you and I met each other for the first time, I told you that we share the same enemies despite having different goals."

"Your goal is to break through the prison the three divine regions have imposed on the Northern Divine Region and become a powerhouse that stands equal, if not above all of them. Our goal was to exact revenge on all those who have wronged us and wet the soil we hate with their blood! That was how we came to a common understanding: you'll help us take revenge against our enemies, we'll help you become the queen of everything, and we'll both kill our common enemies to achieve said ends."

"Was, huh. And what about now?" Chi Wuyao asked. Qianye Ying'er couldn't decipher the emotion behind the Devil Queen's gaze, but she couldn't sense any curiosity from her. It seemed like she already knew what she was about to say.

"Now..." Qianye Ying'er smiled indifferently. "After exacting our revenge and flattening the three divine regions, I want..."

"To make him the king!"

Her tone and the ruthlessness that embodied her former self made it clear that she wouldn't accept no as an answer.

"Oh?" Chi Wuyao blinked, but didn't look surprised or even angry at Qianye Ying'er's declaration. A small smile seemed to cross her lips as she said, "You are aware that this is a conflict of interest, right? A huge one at that. Aren't you worried that this will cause a crack in our cooperation?"

"Hmph. Someone of your intellect would've noticed it eventually, so the crack would only be bigger if I tried to hide it. I may as well put all the cards on the table right now." Qianye Ying'er narrowed her eyes. "Besides... do you seriously think that there's anyone else who's better suited than him to become king after today?"

"Aiyah, it's one of those bad questions that only has one answer." Chi Wuyao smiled unflinchingly despite facing Qianye Ying'er's sharp gaze. Suddenly, she took a step forward until their lips were millimeters away from touching one another's. A seductive voice entered Qianye Ying'er's ears.

"This queen only has one question. If he's the king... then who is the queen?"

"..." Qianye Ying'er stepped backward with a frown before replying coldly, "You."

"Very good." Chi Wuyao smiled after she got the answer she wanted to hear. She turned around and started walking away.

“Wait!”

But Qianye Ying'er stopped her again before asking in a low tone.

“Chi Wuyao, who... are you!”

Chi Wuyao pressed her lips together lightly, but didn't turn around to face Qianye Ying'er. She said, “I'm sure you'll understand why I'm not going to hurt him the more you explore the reason behind your own change of behavior and feelings. It's also the real reason why you confessed to me about our conflict of interest, and why you're willing to let me be the 'queen', am I right?”

“Isn't that enough for you?”

Qianye Ying'er looked startled, but her eyebrows sank even lower. “Who... are... you!?”

“If you must have an answer...” Chi Wuyao smiled. “Then know that I'm someone who knows him... and maybe loves him even more than you.”

Qianye Ying'er: “!!!”

“However... you are a lot luckier than I am.”

Her final line was quiet, wistful... and sad for some reason.

Chi Wuyao left. Qianye Ying'er stood where she was for a very, very long time.

At this time, no one knew yet that the fate of the god realm had been sealed by the conversation between these two women.

The death of the Burning Moon God Emperor, the appearance of the Soul Sky Warship in Burning Moon Royal City, the Burning Moon Realm's devil origin artifact falling into the Soul Stealing Realm's hands, the surrender of every Moon Eater in the Soul Stealing Realm... the news rolled across the Northern Divine Region like a hurricane and shook the world like never before.

The rumors that Yun Che bore the power of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor, that he had killed the Burning Moon God Emperor in one strike, and that he was about to be made the emperor of the Soul Stealing Realm also spread like wildfire.

There had never been such an epic storm in the history of the Northern Divine Region.

It was a million times more stunning than the death of the Clear Sky God Emperor tens of thousands of years ago.

Obviously, the news had reached Yama Realm as well... however, they hadn't displayed any reaction thus far.

Soul Stealing Realm, Soul Stealing Sacred Region.

It had been three days since they returned from the Burning Moon Realm. Although Yun Che had completely recovered from his injuries, he was still in a slumber for some reason.

Even Qianye Ying'er was starting to feel anxious.

Three days ago, Yun Che had summoned a power that didn't belong in the current world; a power that defied the order of nature itself. Could the downside of summoning this power be far worse than she had imagined?

Qianye Ying'er put a finger to Yun Che's neck for the sixtieth time that day. She was checking to see if there were any internal injuries or anomalies in his aura.

She was just about to summon her profound energy when golden light suddenly burst out Yun Che's body.

Qianye Ying'er frowned. The next moment, she stared at Yun Che's scalp.

A rotating golden pagoda had manifested into view above his head. A while later, a faint sheen of golden light slowly enveloped Yun Che's entire body.

"A golden pagoda..." Qianye Ying'er whispered to herself before she recalled something. A sharp gleam appeared in her golden pupils as a result.

She had seen the same golden light on another person.

Heavenly Wolf Xisu!

According to the memories left behind by the Rage God, the sixth stage was the furthest a human who cultivated the Great Way of the Buddha could reach. It was said that it was the closest a human would ever get to becoming a god!

The reason Heavenly Wolf Xisu was incredibly powerful was because he cultivated the Great Way of the Buddha. His body was so tough that he could withstand even a defensive profound formation that Qianye Ying'er could not.

Xisu was a level nine Divine Master. He was barely able to accomplish the sixth stage of the Great Way of the Buddha.

Yun Che was just a level seven Divine Sovereign... but his Great Way of the Buddha was already at the same stage as the Xisu!

As for everything else beyond the sixth stage... it was said that they were unattainable by any mortal. Only a god could enter that forbidden domain.

[Chapter 1672 - Crack](#)

Everytime a profound practitioner ascended to the next realm, their profound energy and aura would transform.

Every time a cultivator of the Great Way of the Buddha ascended to the next stage, their life aura would transform.

After Yun Che went through the nine stage lightning tribulation at the Conferred God Stage and entered the fifth stage of the Great Way of the Buddha, he wasn't able to make any progress no matter what he tried.

But now, after the power of the True God had visited the world once more, the wall blocking the way to the sixth stage was gone.

Since he also had the Dragon God Bloodline and the Dragon God Marrow, his body was even tougher than Xisu's!

Finally, he possessed light profound energy. This meant that the rate at which he regenerated himself and his profound energy was surpassed by no one.

That wasn't even everything the flash of power had brought him.

When he broke the limit, he had unintentionally touched a deeper "nothingness".

"Little Che, wake up! It's time!"

"Ugh... it's still so early. Let me sleep a little while longer."

"Did you forget that you're getting married to Miss Situ today? Time's almost up, so get up already!"

.....

"Little Che, I made this porridge for you. You have a weak constitution, and it's going to be a long morning, so... you should finish everything."

"I got it, I got it."

"Ah... you don't have to drink it this quickly. There's still some time."

"Phew... I'm done. I wonder if I can still eat your meals after I get married, Little Aunt."

"Hehe, don't forget that the governor's daughter is marrying into your family, not the other way around. If you want, I can prepare your meals everyday just like before... I'm sure we'll have less time for each other after you get married though, Little Che."

"Of course not! Didn't I promise you yesterday that I'll never forget about you even after I marry Situ Xuan? We'll spend just as much time with each other as we used to, and I'll always be there whenever you call for me!"

"Hehe, now that's an obedient boy!"

"Yuanba! You're surprisingly early today."

"Hehe! It's the day of your marriage, so how can I not be around to help out? Also, I have some good news for you. The day before yesterday, my father invited a friend of his—a teacher from New Moon Profound Palace—over to his house. He was hoping to ask for a favor and drop me into the New Moon Profound Palace. But after his friend saw me, he said that someone of my talent should just join the Blue Wind Profound Palace directly!"

"Oh! That's amazing! That's something the entire Floating Cloud City should celebrate!"

"Hehehe... I was so excited I haven't slept for the past two days. When I join the Blue Wind Profound Palace and become even stronger than before, I'm sure no one will ever dare to bully you again!"

“But father said that this is best kept a secret to avoid unnecessary complications, so right now you’re the only one who knows about it... oh right! For the past two years, I heard a lot of malicious rumors about Governor Situ planning to cancel your engagement and marrying Situ Xuan to the son of your clan master, Xiao Yulong instead. I was really angry when I heard those rumors, but I didn’t tell you because I don’t want you to worry. Thankfully, the rumors have proven themselves to be nothing but falsehood.”

“Wind does not blow from an empty cave without reason. It’s fine, I’m used to it already. Frankly, I’m overjoyed that a cripple like me could have a friend like you, much less the daughter of the governor as my wife.”

“Che’er, the engagement between you and the governor’s daughter was set in stone a long time ago. When Ying’er saved Mayor Situ’s daughter from certain death, the man was so grateful that he swore an oath of brotherhood with your father immediately. He even declared that his daughter would repay her life debt by marrying the son of Xiao Ying.”

“This is not to mention that Ying’er’s exhausted most of his profound energy and vitality during that rescue... and an assassin took advantage of his moment of weakness and killed him.”

He was conscious, but for some reason he was unable to break out of the dream... in fact, the voices resounded chaotically inside his mind for a very long time.

These voices felt very familiar to him, but for some reason they carried a sense of unfamiliarity he couldn’t understand.

They were resounding right inside his head, but for some reason he felt like he could never reach them.

His half-conscious mind told him that this wasn’t the first time he had heard these familiar yet unfamiliar, near yet far voices in his dreams.

In this ridiculous dream... Xia Yuanba had a slender frame and shared a similar height to him. His handsomeness was only outmatched by his talent in the profound way.

In his dream, the woman he was about to marry wasn’t Xia Qingyue, but the daughter of the governor of the Floating Cloud City, Situ Xuan.

Even the baby Xiao Ying risked his life to save back then was Situ Xuan, not Xia Qingyue.

In his dreams, Xia Yuanba envied him for having a little aunt who would never abandon him. The reason behind his envy was because he didn’t have a brother or a sister.

Why... why am I having these ridiculous dreams again? And why are they running inside my head all at the same time...

.....

Yun Che started struggling to break free, but... his consciousness suddenly sank into a sea of violent, distorted whiteness.

A new, distorted voice reached his ears...

“Do you (I) really want this?”

“Do you (I) know how many years it took... how many cycles you (I) went through... to complete you?”

“You (I) will cease to exist... not in the true sense, at least... if you (I) give him all our origin power...”

“He... is ultimately just a mortal...”

“Alright... as you (I) wish... you are me, and I am you after all.”

“His fragile body won’t be able to withstand my (your) power, so I (you) cannot grant it to him directly. All I (you) can do, is to grant him the ‘Sacred Body’ made using the Law of Nothingness, the body that can contain all the power in the world...”

“That’s not enough?”

“No... fate is the one thing no one should ever interfere with.”

“Not even if I (you) am the one to change it.”

“Okay... if you (I) insist...”

“The karma of the entire world will be affected if fate is changed even a little, and the consequences are something no one can predict or control, not even you (me).”

“I (You) may just have enough origin power left to perform a karma fix...”

“But it will take a very long time... years, decades...”

“I (You) will be pausing the cycle of time of this world during this period... and I (you) will be restarting it only when I (you) am ready to send him to the world that has fully merged with my (your) origin power...”

“Ugh!”

Yun Che abruptly opened his eyes and sat up.

The chaotic and distorted voices in his head started blurring and fading despite his best attempts to hold on to them... until they vanished completely from his memory.

He wasn’t able to remember a single word.

“I’m finally awake.”

Yun Che looked up. Qianye Ying’er was leaning against the wall in front of him, her arms crossed across her chest and staring at him coldly.

Yun Che shook his head once, and he immediately noticed that his body had undergone a huge transformation.

His life cycle, his blood flow, his breathing pattern, his external senses... everything had changed completely.

His consciousness submerged into his body... and he saw that the slumbering pagoda had completely turned pure gold.

The transformation brought by his sudden advancement in the Great Way of the Buddha was greater than any transformation he had ever experienced in his life.

Jasmine once told him that the Great Way of the Buddha had twelve stages in total, and that six was the maximum limit a mortal could reach. Anything beyond that was the domain of gods that a mortal could never attain.

He raised his arms and checked his transformation quietly. With this new body, opening Hell Monarch would no longer damage his body, and he could keep it open for a very long time.

Once he became a Divine Master, he could even maintain Hell Monarch for an indefinite amount of time.

Bang!

Half of his new clothes suddenly suddenly burst into nothing.

He frowned a little before looking at Qianye Ying'er again. "Activate a barrier so that no one can enter."

"..." Qianye Ying'er tightened her arms a little before snorting coldly. "There are two Witches right outside the door. You better control yourself!"

"I'm about to achieve a breakthrough. Guard me until I'm done!"

Yun Che withdrew his arms and started guiding the loose profound energy around him after saying that.

Qianye Ying'er looked visibly surprised, but she quickly rose to her feet and constructed a barrier around them. At the same time, she sent Chi Wuyao a message and told her to keep anyone from entering and any sound from exiting the room.

Yun Che's breakthrough—even if it was just a leap to the next level—was nothing like what a normal profound practitioner experienced.

When a normal Divine Sovereign achieved a breakthrough, their profound energy was supposed to change drastically in quantity and slightly in quality. It should also be a long and quiet process. However, Yun Che's breakthrough as a Divine Sovereign was a roar of profound energy that could annihilate one's profound veins had it happened to a normal profound practitioner.

Earlier, his breakthroughs had happened in the Primordial Profound Ark. This time, he was making his breakthrough in the Soul Stealing Sacred Region. But for some reason, he felt a lot safer than before.

Inside the barrier, Qianye Ying'er watched Yun Che quietly as the air currents whipped against her golden hair and her sash. Her eyes never once strayed away from him.

At this point... even she noticed that she had changed.

She had transformed into a person the old her would never believe or accept; the kind of person she had disdained above anything else.

She knew that the driving force behind the change—or more accurately, the person who made her realize her own feelings and grow to accept it—wasn't herself, but Chi Wuyao.

Even now, Chi Wuyao's bizarre words continued to loop endlessly inside her mind. It had been like this since a few days ago.

About forty five minutes later, the storm surrounding Yun Che suddenly ceased with a bang.

He opened his eyes, and a darker gleam shone through his pupils.

His aura was that of a level eight Divine Sovereign.

This was just a small step in the profound way, but thanks to his unexpected progress in the Great Way of the Buddha, his power level was nothing like before.

After losing four Star God origin powers in a row to activate "God Ash" for a paltry period of two breaths, he had thought he would wake up to some very serious consequences and injuries to his body. But instead, he had gained a profound level in the Divine Sovereign Realm and even entered the sixth stage of the Great Way of the Buddha.

But there was no joy or excitement in his eyes.

This was but a step he must take to accomplish his vengeance.

"Are you done?" Qianye Ying'er turned her waist slightly and pushed her hair behind her shoulders... it was all unconscious. She had never acted like this in front of Yun Che.

"You're not crippled, you're not dead, you even achieved a breakthrough after that crazy stunt you pulled! Hmph! I don't even know what to say about your luck!"

Qianye Ying'er tried to cancel the barrier after she mocked Yun Che, but he raised an arm and stopped her. "What is the situation in the Burning Moon Realm?"

Qianye Ying'er replied, "Besides Fen Daojun and Fen Daozang, everyone else including the Moon Eaters and the Burning Moon Divine Envoy's has surrendered. Burning Moon Royal City is now under the Witches' control."

"Everyone!?" Yun Che's frowned deeply all of a sudden.

"Why are you surprised? You know how good Chi Wuyao is." Qianye Ying'er shot him a look. "Those Moon Eaters were already scared out of their wits thanks to you, but she still chose her words carefully and imbued them with her soul stealing powers, striking their hearts at their weakest spot. Long story short, she used the momentum you created yourself to take over Burning Moon Realm without spilling a drop of blood."

"But this is good, isn't it? It's the best result we can hope for and a huge step in our conquest."

"..." Yun Che didn't say anything. In fact, his expression was positively ugly.

"What's wrong? Do you think Chi Wuyao is too scary for your liking?" Qianye Ying'er asked.

Yun Che still didn't say anything. His silence was itself a tacit admission.

He started replaying every act, every image, every word that was ever spoken since they had entered the Burning Moon Realm. His frown grew deeper and deeper.

“She wouldn’t be a worthy partner if she wasn’t this intelligent,” Qianye Ying’er said. “In any case, no matter how devious she is, don’t forget that we are the reason she’s able to do all this. At the very least, we currently share the same goal, and we don’t have a conflict of interest until much later. You need not worry too much.”

Yun Che looked her in the eye before saying slowly, “You’re defending her.”

“...” Qianye Ying’er froze for a second before admitting with a conflicted expression, “You’re... right. You don’t think... she has bewitched my soul, do you?”

Yun Che fell silent again. A long time later, he opened his palm and filled the space with an aura so pure that the very world itself seemed to have evolved into something better.

It was the Untamed World Pellet!

Back at the God Realm of Absolute Beginning, He Ling had created two Untamed World Pellets using the Untamed Divine Marrow and Divine Fruit of Absolute Beginning.

He had given one to Qianye Ying’er. Thanks to it, she was able to become a level eight Divine Master in just half a year.

He was going to consume the other Untamed World Pellet after he became a Divine Master.

But now... he chose to give it to Qianye Ying’er instead.

“Eat it.”

The Untamed World Pellet was the highest profound pellet known to the current world. It was an extinct object that not even a god emperor would dare to wish for. But all Qianye Ying’er did was frown at Yun Che and said in a chilly tone, “What is the meaning of this? Regret? Compensation? Pity?”

“No,” Yun Che said slowly. “It is true that Chi Wuyao is very reliant on my Eternal Calamity of Darkness, but truthfully speaking... we are still so much weaker compared to her. After this incident, I don’t like how precarious our position feels.”

“Your power... is the one power that belongs to me and me alone.”

[Chapter 1673 - Distrust](#)

Qianye Ying’er hesitated for a very long time, but in the end she reached out and took what was most likely the last Untamed World Pellet in the world.

When they were traveling to the Soul Stealing Realm, she had asked Yun Che what his “trump card” was. She didn’t ask on a whim. At the time they were about to face the scariest woman in the Northern Divine Region and the king realm she reigned, so it was only natural that she wanted some assurance.

She now knew exactly where Yun Che’s confidence had come from.

However, now that his one-time trump card was gone, he was assaulted by a huge sense of insecurity.

The Soul Stealing Realm was supporting them because they were in a “cooperative” relationship. From the beginning until now, Yun Che and Qianye Ying’er had only truly had each other to rely on.

Yun Che was very aware that he was an independent and uncontrollable element. Knowing Chi Wuyao's personality and modus operandi, he knew that she would never allow anyone to supplant her authority or operate beyond her control. It had always been just a matter of time before they fell out with each other.

Previously, he had filed these risks under long term concerns and focused on the immediate issues at hand.

But now that he had lost his trump card, he couldn't ignore it any longer.

"Alright." Qianye Ying'er nodded slowly before tightening her grip on the Untamed World Pellet. "If I can return to my original realm with this, then all the better. I have one question though... why aren't you worried that I will grow beyond your expectations and slip out of your control this time?"

Yun Che frowned. "I told you already, your power... belongs to me and me alone."

"Hmph. I'm the one with the power, not you. It's not up to you to decide." Qianye Ying'er turned away slightly. "Your sudden confidence makes no sense at all."

Yun Che didn't say anything.

He had spent many days and nights with her. He knew her a lot better than before.

Once, he hated her guts because of her cruelty and malice. Once, he swore that he would kill her in the cruelest fashion imaginable.

But when he saw her crying soundlessly on the darkness profound ark, when her tears hit the innermost depth of his soul... the part he thought was dead a long time ago...

What does it take to see through a person completely?

Once upon a time, he thought that Xia Qingyue would never harm him; thought that he would respect Zhou Xuzi to the end of time; thought that he would hate Qianye Ying'er for as long as he lived...

Everyone's image in his life had completely flipped.

"Actually," Qianye Ying'er said suddenly. "I don't think you need to watch out for Chi Wuyao too much... but you're not going to listen, are you? It is just my baseless intuition after all."

"We're still going to cooperate with Chi Wuyao, but it's time we develop a power that belongs to us alone," Yun Che declared quietly and coldly.

"How?" Qianye Ying'er asked. "Forget a power base, we don't even have many acquaintances in the Northern Divine Region."

"You'll see them when it's time," Yun Che said quietly.

Qianye Ying'er was surprised, but she didn't prod further. Pursing her lips slightly, she replied, "Alright. I look forward to it."

“Refine the pellet in the Primordial Profound Ark... in fact, you should go right now,” Yun Che said. “The first pellet took you half a year to refine. Now that you’re stronger, this one should take you a month at most. It’s also the perfect amount of time for you to recollect yourself.”

Qianye Ying’er turned away immediately. “What do you mean, recollect myself? I’m very calm, thank you very much!”

Yun Che: “...”

The Primordial Profound Ark appeared, and Qianye Ying’er put a hand on the entrance. But before she entered the vessel, she asked quietly with her back facing toward Yun Che, “Were you serious when you talked about ‘the future’ back then?”

“Heh...” Yun Che smiled indifferently before closing his eyes. “I just thought that it would be a shame to kill a perfect toy like you too soon. Nothing more, nothing less.”

“...” She didn’t turn around to retort. Her lips moved as if she wanted to say something, but Qianye Ying’er vanished into a wisp of red light instead. She had gone into the Primordial Profound Ark.

The room turned silent once more, but Yun Che didn’t remove the barrier.

Still in a sitting position, Yun Che suddenly called out a name. “He Ling.”

The wood spirit girl appeared before him and asked, “What do you need, master?”

He said, “I need to go to the Yama Realm for something important very soon. After that, I need you to do something for me.”

“Please speak, master.”

The way he was talking worried her a little.

Yun Che stared into her gorgeous jade pupils and said, “Please dual cultivate with me.”

“Huh?” He Ling thought she heard wrong for a second. Then, she stumbled backward with widened pupils. “M-master... wh-what are you saying?”

The Wood Spirits were the purest living creatures in the world. Although He Ling’s soul was overflowing with hatred—which was at least on par with Yun Che—that didn’t change the fact that she was the last descendant of the Wood Spirit Royal Family.

Yun Che wasn’t surprised at all by her reaction. He said seriously, “I need your racial aura to understand the Law of Nothingness further.”

“M-my aura? T-the... Law of Nothingness?” He Ling was now both shocked and confused.

Still staring at her eyes, Yun Che nodded slightly and said, “The Wood Spirit Race was the first race ever created by the Creation Goddess of Life, Li Suo. Therefore, your race’s life aura is the oldest of them all. Moreover, you are a member of the royal family, so dual cultivating with you should allow me to understand the Law of Nothingness at a deeper level.”

“And if I can do that...”

Yun Che opened his palm to reveal the Burning Moon Exquisite Devil Jade, the devil origin object he robbed from the Burning Moon Realm.

Two black puffs of light hovered above the jade, and they were slowly returning to it. They were the powers of the strongest Moon Eater, Fen Daozang and the Burning Moon God Emperor, Fen Daojun.

He Ling could sense Yun Che's thoughts and desires clearly through their life connection. Biting her lip and looking down at her feet, dark green hair hiding the blush on her cheeks from view, she whispered, "I... I will obey."

Yun Che said, "I won't force you if you don't want to."

He Ling shook her head. "From the day I became the Sky Poison Poison Spirit, my life has only had two meanings: my revenge, and you, my master. I... I will do anything you want, master."

She was biting her lip firmly. Her sash was threatening to break at the seams because of how hard she was holding onto it.

She was nervous, she was afraid... but she didn't mind having sex with Yun Che at all.

Her body might be as pure as a piece of blank paper, but her soul... she had seen far, far too much since she became the Sky Poison Poison Spirit.

Yun Che nodded before softening his voice. "He Ling, we will take revenge for you and change the fate of your clansmen after we return to the Eastern Divine Region... I promise you that they will never have to hide themselves again."

"Mn." He Ling mumbled in agreement before meeting his eyes again. She still sounded a bit timid, however. "But master... wh-why bring this up all of a sudden?"

"It's because Chi Wuyao turned out to be far scarier than I could possibly imagine."

Yun Che frowned and lowered his voice further, his memories of the Burning Moon Realm replaying themselves in his head. "It's highly possible that she learned of Qianying's pregnancy a while ago."

"Ah?" He Ling let out a soft cry of surprise.

"Qianying isn't the kind of person who would allow this to happen, but ever since she entered the Soul Stealing Realm, she started changing, acting and behaving very oddly. Chi Wuyao... has to be the reason why Qianying didn't control herself and allowed herself to become pregnant."

Yun Che's frown grew deeper and deeper. "She was the one who asked Qianying to fight Fen Daojun. It could just be a coincidence and I'm overthinking things, but how do you explain the Soul Sky Warship appearing at that exact moment?"

Yun Che slowly clenched his fists. His eyebrows were scrunched together into a murderous frown.

"Are you saying that... everything that had happened was part of the Devil Queen's plan all along?" He Ling's mouth fell open slightly. "But how could she possibly have known that you had the power to kill the Burning Moon God Emperor?"

“She didn’t. There’s no way she could possibly have known,” Yun Che said slowly. “She used this to make me direct my anger at the Burning Moon Realm. By doing this, she was able to find out what my trump card is, force me to use it and deal a heavy blow to the Burning Moon Realm all at once. From her standpoint, she was killing several birds with one stone.”

“She probably didn’t expect me to kill Fen Daojun, but the end result was the same. I used up my biggest trump card to deal a severe blow to the Burning Moon Realm... and the Soul Sky Warship showed up just in time to maximize the profits.”

Chi Wuyao’s intelligence, cunning and most of all, her understanding and control over the human heart were so terrifying that even Yun Che was afraid. He was growing more and more certain that the eyes Chi Wuyao hid behind her black fog could see through a person’s soul like a hot knife through butter.

Not only was Qianye Ying’er subtly influenced by her, he himself... had acted exactly as she planned thus far!

As great as it would be to have an ally like this, she wouldn’t leave him alive after they were done using each other. It was because he was a threat to her life and her status... although she wasn’t alone in this regard. All the god emperors in this world were like this.

That was why he needed to bring forward his preparations.

“Maybe... maybe she mobilized the Soul Sky Warship because she’s worried about your safety?” He Ling suggested weakly.

“Heh.” Yun Che chuckled before replying, “The Soul Sky Warship is the flagship of the Soul Stealing Realm. Even mobilizing it would put the entire Northern Divine Region on alert, much less flying it right into the heart of the Burning Moon Realm. It was as good as a declaration of all-out-war.”

“The Witches might be stronger than the Moon Eaters thanks to Eternal Calamity of Darkness, but it would be a pyrrhic victory at best. If the Burning Moon Realm somehow manages to drag out the war, it would damage their roots and alarm the Yama Realm into action. Can you imagine how much worse the situation would become if they decided to turn it into a three-way battle?”

“Therefore, there’s absolutely no way she would mobilize the Soul Sky Warship unless she was confident in her chances! You think she would do this for me?” A cold smile crossed Yun Che’s lips. “Why is a realm king called a realm king? It’s because the ‘realm’ comes before the ‘king’! So why would the Devil Queen mobilize her main warship to save a collaborator that’s destined to be a great threat to her in the future?”

Suddenly, he caught himself and stopped smiling. His eyes turned blurry as he murmured, “No, that’s not right... there was a realm king who risked everything for me. But she’s already...”

Yun Che abruptly shook his head and banished those memories to the darkest depths of his mind. Recovering himself, he continued. “Moreover, the Soul Stealing Realm isn’t exactly close to the Burning Moon Realm, so she must’ve mobilized the Soul Sky Warship long before I went back to the Burning Moon Realm... meaning that everything I did afterward was almost exactly what she was expecting to happen.”

Yun Che's explanation caused He Ling to grow tenser and tenser. Her impression of Chi Wuyao was now painted over by a color of terror. She sneaked a glance at the brooding Yun Che and asked, "So... when do you want to... you know..."

She bit her lip, but she wasn't able to squeeze the words out of her throat no matter how she tried.

"We'll do it after we return from the Yama Realm."

Yun Che rose to his feet and put on a new set of clothes. Then, he declared. "In fact, I'm going to head there right now! This time, I'll give her no chance to react to my actions!"

[Chapter 1674 - Yama Imperial District](#)

When Yun Che finally released the barrier and stepped out of the room, he immediately saw Chi Wuyao walking up to him.

Chi Wuyao's footsteps slowed a little when she saw Yun Che. She almost blinked when she sensed the drastic change in his aura.

She pursed her lips lightly and let out a chuckle. "You recovered from that and improved this much? As expected of the successor of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor, you always defy logic no matter where you go."

Beside Chi Wuyao, Witch Chanyi bowed her head and said, "Congratulations on your breakthrough, Young Master Yun."

Yun Che smiled back and said, "My little breakthrough is nothing compared to your gain, Devil Queen. The entire Burning Moon Realm is now yours."

Chi Wuyao slowly walked up to him and said, "And you were the key to that success, not me."

"A success that is now wholly in your grasp."

"You and I share the same goal, and you are free to use any power I possess be it the Witches or the Moon Eaters. Does it matter if the person standing at the front is you or me?"

"It sounds like it doesn't matter if you put it that way," Yun Che replied expressionlessly.

"One of the main reasons the proud Moon Eaters surrendered this easily is because you are the successor of a Devil Emperor. You're a Divine Sovereign and you're not crowned yet, but they're already addressing you as 'God Emperor Yun'. This has never happened in the history of the Northern Divine Region."

"By now, even you should understand what the inheritance you carry truly means to the profound practitioners of the Northern Divine Region."

Chi Wuyao continued. "It is no exaggeration to say that the domain of the gods and the power to annihilate a god emperor in one blow absolutely destroyed the belief the Moon Eaters put their faith in all this time, and now the entire region is shaking in terror just listening to the rumors. But after that moment of terror has passed... a hope like never before will be ignited in their hearts, one that will awaken all the dark souls that have been slumbering for countless years."

Yun Che: "..."

"This is why controlling Burning Moon Realm is hardly the biggest reward we got from this expedition. It's the shock that the successor of a Devil Emperor actually exists and the hope we ignited in the people's hearts. In fact, this queen has been busy fanning this flame for the past few days, not taking control of the Burning Moon Realm."

"Does that effort of yours... include my upcoming coronation as the god emperor of the Soul Stealing Realm?" Yun Che asked.

"..." When Chi Wuyao stepped up to talk to Yun Che, Chanyi had stayed exactly where she was. As the conversation continued, she was starting to realize that her master's relationship with Yun Che... had changed in a way she wasn't expecting.

"Correct," Chi Wuyao said. "You are the Devil Emperor's successor, but before you killed the Burning Moon God Emperor in one strike and suppressed his realm in a single day, you had no merits to speak of. Now, the people themselves will spread your fame and nail your influence into their hearts like never before. Your coronation is guaranteed to surpass all coronations that have ever been in the Northern Divine Region."

Yun Che smiled and shot her a sideways look. "As expected of the Devil Queen, your ability to turn an 'unexpected' occurrence into a brilliant success is truly a sight to behold."

"There is no reason not to ride the wave of momentum while it's on our side," Chi Wuyao said.

"Is that so?" Yun Che narrowed his eyes slightly. "I could almost believe that you weren't the one who made it happen in the first place."

Chi Wuyao: "..."

Frowning, Witch Chanyi finally couldn't hold herself back any longer. She took a step forward and said, "Young Master Yun, I think you're misunderstanding some-"

But Chi Wuyao raised her arm and stopped Chanyi from continuing further. Her smile unchanging, she said, "This queen could be a million times more cunning than she is, but she could never have imagined that there existed a power that could kill the Burning Moon God Emperor instantly. Speaking of which..."

She changed the topic without warning. "Is Yun Qianying refining the second Untamed World Pellet?"

"!?" Yun Che's eyebrows twitched at the unexpected question.

"It looks like this queen is right." Yun Che's expression told her the answer. "She's missing and her aura is nowhere to be found. She must've entered an independent space that cannot be detected by the outside world."

Yun Che's eyes turned chilly. "How... did you know that there was a second Untamed World Pellet?"

"Oh, it's simple," Chi Wuyao said in a relaxed manner. "Yun Qianying's cultivation level suddenly skyrocketed after the two of you returned from the God Realm of Absolute Beginning. Considering that

the two of you had stolen the Untamed Divine Marrow, the greatest possibility behind her abnormal jump in strength had to be the Untamed World Pellet.”

“At the time your relationship with her was uncertain at best, so there’s no way you would spend something that precious on her unless you had another one to spare. As for why you have two or more Untamed World Pellets in your possession, I can only imagine that it’s due to the Sky Poison Pearl’s unparalleled refinement abilities. You gave one to Yun Qianying and kept the rest for yourself... you probably planned to consume them after you became a Divine Master, right?”

Yun Che: “...”

“You’re worried because you recently lost your trump card. You want to increase your power in the shortest amount of time possible because you don’t want to have the weaker hand in your dealings with me.”

“In that case, is there anything in this world that can increase a person’s power faster than the Untamed World Pellet? Besides...” Yun Che couldn’t actually tell, but he felt like Chi Wuyao had blinked at him from behind her black fog. “It no longer feels like a waste spending the last Untamed World Pellet you have on her... right?”

“...” Yun Che’s frown grew deeper and deeper.

“As I thought, a woman who’s too good at figuring out a man’s thoughts earns nothing but revulsion.” Chi Wuyao smiled faintly. “Say, you’re not heading to the Yama Realm right now, are you?”

“# ¥ %...” Yun Che’s face was completely blank.

“Fen Daojun just died, and the Yama Emperor is probably still quaking from the rumors. There is no better time than now. So...”

She stood next to Yun Che and paid no heed to the ominous atmosphere surrounding him. “Are you going there alone, or do you want me to accompany you?”

Yun Che narrowed his eyes before saying, “You are busy with controlling the Burning Moon Realm and ‘fanning the flames’, aren’t you? I wouldn’t dare to trouble you with something this trivial.”

Chi Wuyao shook her head as if she didn’t understand the barb in his words. “Nothing relating to the Yama Devils is ‘trivial’, and I’m sure you know better than anyone just how risky your venture will be.”

“But your Yun Qianying isn’t around, and there’s no way you’re going to listen to me, so I’m just going to save my breath.”

Chi Wuyao raised a finger and created a soul fragment at her fingertip. She then sent it flying toward Yun Che and said, “This contains the location of the Yama Realm and information regarding the Yama Emperor, the Yama Devils, and the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness. While you are gone, this queen will continue to take charge of the Burning Moon Realm, spread your influence, and prepare your coronation.”

“Do not die and waste all my effort, alright?”

Yun Che didn't say anything in reply. A long and hard stare at Chi Wuyao later, he leaped into the air and vanished in the blink of an eye.

Chanyi watched Yun Che vanishing before her eyes in astonishment. He was definitely flying toward the Yama Realm. She walked up to her master worriedly and asked, "Master, is he really going to the Yama Realm?"

"He has his own plans," Chi Wuyao said.

"But... but this is the Yama Realm!" Chanyi looked both puzzled and worried. "Didn't you say he cannot recreate the power he used to kill Fen Daojun again? It's too dangerous for him to enter the Yama Realm alone!"

"He has his own plans," Chi Wuyao repeated herself. "Let's hope he'll succeed at whatever he's planning."

"Even if he fails, he should... he must have a way to escape safely," Chi Wuyao said calmly. "His running and hiding skills are sufficient to deal with any danger."

"But... what can he possibly do on his own?" Chanyi asked again.

Everyone knew that the Yama Realm was the strongest king realm of the three king realms of the Northern Divine Region.

Not only were they protected by the Yama Emperor, there were three Yama Ancestors residing at the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness.

They alone were all the Yama Realm needed to turn their home into the most impenetrable fortress of darkness in the Northern Divine Region.

"Chanyi," Chi Wuyao said while staring at the spot Yun Che vanished. "What happened at the Burning Moon Realm was an accident. But you don't need to worry about him too much. His cultivation may be lacking at the moment, but don't forget that he possesses the Eternal Calamity of Darkness. In the Northern Divine Region, he is the one and only monarch of darkness."

"I'm sure... that the Yama Devils will be the first to understand what that really means in its entirety."

"..." Chanyi's mouth moved like she still wanted to say something.

"That being said, your worry isn't unwarranted." Chi Wuyao closed her eyes slowly. "Message Hua Jin and tell her to sneak into the Yama Imperial District. If anything goes amiss, tell her to send word immediately."

"Yes, master." Chanyi accepted the order and tried to turn away, but...

"Wait."

Chi Wuyao stopped her all of a sudden. Behind the black fog, the Devil Queen's chest rose and fell visibly and she sighed. "I changed my mind... this queen will be absent for a while. Tell Jie Xin and Jie Ling to be on their guard while this queen is gone."

“...Yes, master.” Chanyi accepted the order quietly. She wore a complicated and confused expression on her face.

All three king realms were situated near the center of the Northern Divine Region, so it wouldn't take Yun Che more than a couple of hours to make it from one king realm to the other.

Just like the Soul Stealing Realm, the Yama Realm's domain was smaller than what you would normally expect for a king realm. It was located at the center of the Northern Divine Region.

The core strength of the Yama Realm consisted of the ten Yama Devils who served the Yama Emperor directly and the thirty-six Yama Ghosts. However, there were only thirty-five Yama Ghosts now because the strongest of them all, the Yama Ghost King Yan Sangeng was killed by Yun Che in one strike.

If Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er hadn't joined the Soul Stealing Realm, the Yama Realm would be hunting them all over the place already.

Yun Che didn't use a profound ark. He had decided to make the flight himself. One of the reasons he put on a worried look and urged Qianye Ying'er to refine the second Untamed World Pellet was so that he could travel to the Yama Realm alone.

Otherwise... she would probably follow him in secret even if he made her promise to stay put.

The closer he got to the Yama Realm, the darker his surroundings became.

Eight hours later, he finally entered the Yama Realm's star region.

The darkness aura in this place was clearly thicker than the Soul Stealing Realm's. This alone ensured that all dark profound practitioners who cultivated here had a natural advantage over the profound practitioners of the other two king realms.

He concealed his aura and slowed down. Flying above the Yama Realm without a sound, he flew through one dark territory after another until finally... he sensed a slight change in the air in front of him.

Yun Che dropped to the ground and slowly walked toward his destination.

His surroundings were unbelievably silent and oppressive. He couldn't see or hear anyone. If he was a different person, a sense of dread would be growing swiftly inside him every time he took a step forward.

Yun Che narrowed his eyes slightly. He could sense that the world in front of him was enveloped in an invisible fog. Wherever he looked or checked with his spiritual perception, a grayish smoke was rising from the soil.

The city in front of him was none other than the capital of the Yama Devils, the infamous Yama Imperial District of the Northern Divine Region.

Directly beneath the Yama Capital was the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness.

Step... step... step...

Yun Che's footsteps weren't heavy, but they were unusually clear due to the dead silence around him. As he continued forward, a cold and unfeeling voice reached him. “Death to all intruders in the capital!”

Shred!

A pitch black spear shrouded by death energy tore through the air and flew straight toward Yun Che.

[Chapter 1675 - The Emperor of the Yama Realm](#)

In the Yama Imperial District, even the lowliest guard possessed terrifying strength.

Astonishingly enough, the ebon spear which shot toward Yun Che contained the might of a Divine King. The sharp sound of air breaking apart was as terrifying as the hoarse wail of an evil spirit.

It was obvious that the Yama Imperial District was even more tightly guarded and controlled than the capitals of the other king realms.

If a person approached the capital of the Soul Stealing Realm or the Burning Moon Realm, the guards would first suppress them with their aura and give them a warning. However, when they approached this Yama Imperial District... the guards would immediately attempt to kill them, no questions asked!

Yun Che came to a sudden halt as the dark spear swiftly grew larger in his eyes... before it struck him right in the forehead.

Buzz!

It did not pierce through his body and the assailant did not even hear the sound of darkness rapaciously devouring the intruder. Instead, the spear of darkness disintegrated into a cloud of fine black dust the moment it hit Yun Che between the eyes.

The air suddenly froze and the person who was hiding in the shadows suddenly found it hard to breathe. At this moment, Yun Che slowly stretched out a hand and made a grasping motion.

A shocked and terrified cry of misery rang in the air as a human figure swiftly flew out of the darkness and into Yun Che's waiting hand. He struggled wildly as Yun Che firmly caught hold of him.

It was a small and shriveled middle-aged man and the black skeleton markings on his body were a symbol of his exalted status in the Northern Divine Region. However, only fear could be found on his face now that he had fallen into Yun Che's clutches. His darkness profound energy seemed to be trapped in an invisible cage and he could not circulate even the teensiest bit of it.

Yun Che flipped his palm and heavily smacked the middle-aged man in the chest with the back of his hand... A "cracking" sound rang in the air as all of his bones and internal organs were destroyed. The man sank limply to the ground and went silent forever.

Yun Che started walking forward again and he nonchalantly trod on the dead man's right leg. When he stepped down on that leg, the mighty thigh bones of a Divine King were snapped like a branch of rotten wood. After he walked past the corpse, it had already been shattered into hundreds of pieces, yet not a single trace of blood could be seen on the ground.

The air grew thick and heavy as the auras which were pressing down on Yun Che suddenly rippled with panic. But after that, all of the auras grew colder and more sinister than before.

This was the Yama Imperial District, there was nothing in this universe that could pose a threat in this place.

“Hmph, it’s been many years since someone last chose to die like this.”

“He dared to kill someone from the Yama Imperial District. I don’t care who he is, but he’s going to be the most pathetic set of bones in the Bone Sea by the end of today!”

As those deep voices rang out, the air suddenly grew cold and hundreds of ice-cold killing intents focused on Yun Che’s body. Yun Che stared into the space in front of him and he could just barely make out a gigantic skull in the distance.

This was the skull of a primordial devil and it was several kilometers wide. The gaping mouth of this devil’s skull was the main gate of the Yama Imperial District.

He stopped once more. His eyes were calm and indifferent as he said, “Tell the Yama Emperor that Yun Che has come to visit him.”

Once he uttered the two words “Yun Che”, the already frigid air utterly froze and all of the auras which were locked onto Yun Che suddenly grew sluggish for a moment.

This was because the two words “Yun Che” had practically flipped the Northern Divine Region upside down over the last few days.

It was said that Yun Che had obliterated the Burning Moon Emperor with a single slash of his sword. When he unleashed that attack, the spatial tremors it had generated were so powerful that the entire Yama Realm could feel it.

While all of these things could still be called rumors... no one could deny that the vast Burning Moon Realm had fallen into the hands of the Devil Queen in the span of a single day! It was a terrifying fact that was plain for all to see!

Yun Che possessed the power of a Devil Emperor... Yun Che had killed the Burning Moon God Emperor using the power of a True God... The surviving Moon Eaters were so shocked and frightened that they did not even dare to attack him after that... Yun Che was going to be made the emperor of the Soul Stealing Realm...

These rumors reverberated through every corner of the Northern Divine Region like heaven-shaking peals of thunder. As a fellow king realm, the Yama Realm had received news of this before everyone else. They were also undoubtedly the ones who had managed to verify most of these rumors...

They confirmed the death of the Burning Moon God Emperor and the fact that the Burning Moon Realm had fallen without a single shot being fired... Even though the Yama Emperor had not chosen to do anything the last few days, there was no way he had kept his composure.

And right now, the person who had personally killed the Burning Moon God Emperor, who had stirred up huge waves in the Northern Divine Region and caused this uneasy mood to settle over the Yama Realm, had now appeared in the heart of the Yama Realm.

And it seemed like he had come alone as well!

After a suffocatingly long period of silence, a tremulous voice finally rang in the air. "Hurry... Hurry up and send a sound transmission to the Great Commander!"

Yan Tianxiao was the Yama Emperor, one of the three emperors of the Northern Region. He was also publicly acknowledged as the number one god emperor in the Northern Divine Region.

The surname Yan was not the name of any particular clan. In fact, the surname Yan had come about when the grand ancestor of the Yama Realm had obtained the Yama Devil's legacy and conquered the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness. After that, he changed his surname to Yan and became the grand ancestor of the newly-established Yan Clan.

Because it was located within the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness, the Yama Imperial District had been bathed in the dark yin energy of the primordial devil bones since its inception. As a result of this, it was the best place in the Northern Divine Region to cultivate darkness profound energy. This was also the biggest reason for the Yama Realm's dominance in the Northern Divine Region.

As this era's Yama Emperor, Yan Tianxiao's strength was immeasurable and he took great pride in his power and position. However, there were two more things that he held dear to his heart and those were his son and daughter respectively.

Yama Crown Prince Yan Jie and his eighty-seventh daughter Yan Wu.

A tall figure slowly walked into the cold and lonely Yama Great Hall. He was dressed all in black and his skin was as dusky as a corpse. He fell to one knee and said, "This child greets royal father."

Yan Tianxiao had been quietly standing in the same spot for many hours. He had not even moved an inch. The voice that rang out behind him caused him to open his eyes but he did not turn around to face the owner of that voice. Instead, he asked in a dry and calm voice, "How is it going?"

Those four short and simple words contained a terrifying imperious might that could shatter a person's soul. Furthermore, this imperious might, which Yan Tianxiao released subconsciously, was much heavier than it usually was.

The recent rumors and the upheaval of the Burning Moon Realm had clearly unsettled Yan Tianxiao. He was far less calm than he looked.

The black-robed man replied respectfully, "Reporting to royal father. I have indeed confirmed that the spatial shockwave that occurred four days ago spread out to nearly thirty percent of the star regions in the Northern Divine Region. The spatial shockwave also caused countless cracks to appear in the Burning Moon Realm in the space of a few short breaths."

The person who was speaking was the Yama Crown Prince Yan Jie. But he also wore one other hat. He was one of the Ten Yama Devils and he was known as "The Devil of Calamity"! He was ranked fourth among the Ten Yama Devils in strength.

Ten thousand years ago, not long after he had inherited his Yama Devil powers, he had been made the Yama Crown Prince and had become the undisputed heir to the throne of the Yama Emperor...

However, his position of crown prince had come under threat in recent years and his position was becoming more and more precarious as the years went by.

This was also why he had been particularly active in the Northern Divine Region for the last few millennia as he sought to prove himself in all areas.

“It was true that none of the eleven remaining Moon Eaters resisted after Fen Daojun and Fen Daozang died. In fact, the very first person to submit was actually... Fen Daoqi himself.”

“Him?” Yan Tianxiao’s eyebrows sank slightly.

Fen Daoqi was the Burning Moon Realm’s imperial advisor, he was the person that Fen Daojun respected the most... and also the person that Yan Tianxiao was wariest of.

Fen Daoqi had been called the brains of Burning Moon. His judgement was impeccable and he always sought to maximize Burning Moon’s benefits.

There was also one more thing that he had yet to mention, and it was also the most important detail:

Fen Daoqi was extremely loyal to the Burning Moon Realm.

Such a man had actually been the first to bend his knee to the Devil Queen?

Just how much of their convictions and beliefs had been destroyed during that event!?

“In a few short days, all of the Burning Moon Realm’s core assets have fallen into the hands of the Soul Stealing Realm. The main reason for why it has gone without a hitch is precisely Fen Daoqi. He was not only the first to submit, he is also doing his best to merge the Burning Moon Realm into the Soul Stealing Realm. It’s as if... his loyalty toward the Burning Moon Realm has completely transferred to the Soul Stealing Realm in the span of a single day.”

“However, the likeliest scenario in this case is that he had his ‘soul stolen’ by the Devil Queen.”

“No.” Yan Tianxiao directly rebutted him. “A man like Fen Daoqi is the sort of person that is least likely to have his soul stolen. Because his mind is so cold and rational that even this king has not been able to find any weaknesses in him that I can exploit.”

“There can only be two reasons for his actions. The first is that he could not find any value whatsoever in putting up a last, desperate struggle... The second is that the Soul Stealing Realm had something that he intensely desired.”

His eyebrows sank as he muttered to himself, “It looks like this king will have to go take a look at the Burning Moon Realm myself.”

At this moment, the sound of footsteps rang out in the air once more.

Compared to Yan Jie’s sombre and respectful attitude when he stepped into the hall, this person practically seemed to be skipping.

In the entire Yama Realm, there was only one person... that dared to behave in such a manner in front of the Yama Emperor.

The Yama Emperor's eighty-seventh daughter—Yan Wu.

But she also went by another title. A title that was far grander than “princess”! She was one of the Ten Yama Devils and she was known as the “Yaksha”!

And her strength ranked number one amongst the Ten Yama Devils!

She was also the only other level ten Divine Master that the Yama Realm had in this current era!

Yan Wu was tall and willowy and her long hair cascaded to her shoulders. She wore a tight-fitting suit of light armor that was as black as midnight and hugged her two exceptionally long and slender legs.

Because of the Yama Devil Art, her skin was also dusky and it shone with a corpse-white sheen. However, her features were exquisite and coolly elegant, so her ashen complexion actually lent her a bewitching sense of beauty.

“Royal father, royal brother.” She stopped next to Yan Jie as she sketched a bow towards her father. Even though she was a woman, she was a full half a head taller than Yan Jie.

At this moment, Yan Tianxiao, whose back had faced Yan Jie this entire time, turned around. His imperial bearing vanished and a gentle smile floated up on his face. “Wu'er, you've come.”

“It looks like Little Wu has come back with some good news,” Yan Jie said with a faint smile on his face.

The Yama Emperor had many children and Yan Wu had been a child borne to him by one of his concubines. Thus, no one had paid any attention to her and the difference in her status and Yan Jie's status at that time was like the difference between the heavens and the earth.

However, when she started cultivating the profound way as a child, she displayed an incredibly prodigious talent at cultivation. In fact, when she reached eleven years of age, the power of the Yama Devils had reacted to her.

After she inherited the power of the Yama Devils, her cultivation still continued to soar. In the short span of three millennia, she had surpassed Yan Jie, who had held the power of the Yama Devils for nearly ten thousand years already. After that, she managed to take one more step forward in her cultivation. It was a step that shook the Yama Realm, no, a step that shook the entire Northern Divine Region... because she had become a level ten Divine Master.

If not for the fact that there was someone as terrifying as Chi Wuyao suppressing her, she would have already been crowned the Northern Divine Region's “Goddess”.

And her existence undoubtedly threatened Yan Jie's position as Crown prince.

Even though the Yama Realm had never had a female emperor before, there had... never been someone like Yan Wu either.

“What did the venerable ancestors say?” Yan Tianxiao asked.

Yan Wu shook her head as she replied, “The venerable ancestors are completely unconcerned about this matter.”

“Unconcerned?” Yan Jie said with a heavily furrowed brow.

"I said everything that I needed to say." Yan Wu said as her brows knitted together. "However, the three venerable ancestors reacted indifferently. In fact... it seemed like they did not believe my words."

"The one thing they truly refused to accept was that a power that could kill a god emperor in a single instant had appeared in this universe. They were convinced that they would have already touched this domain of power if it existed. Especially since they have dwelled in the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness for hundreds of thousands of years."

Once she said that, Yan Wu's eyebrows arched slightly. "Royal father, to be very honest with you, I don't quite believe it either. And I won't be able to believe it unless I see it myself."

Yan Tianxiao lapsed into a deep silence. A long period of time passed before he finally spoke, "No matter whether we believe it or not, Fen Daojun is dead and the Burning Moon Realm has fallen. Those are the undeniable facts and it all happened within the span of a single day! So this matter must be..."

Yan Tianxiao suddenly stopped midway through his sentence and his eyebrows suddenly sank.

"What happened?" Yan Wu quickly asked.

"A transmission has come from our main gate... Yun Che has arrived." Yan Tianxiao said slowly, his eyes flashing as he spoke.

For the first time in his life, he actually felt like he was "at a loss".

He had still not gotten over the shock he had received from the Burning Moon Emperor's death and the Burning Moon Realm's surrender. But before he could figure out what had happened, before he could even start to investigate Yun Che... he had actually shown up on his doorstep!

"What!?" Yan Jie and Yan Wu's expressions dramatically changed.

"Did the Devil Queen come with him?" Yan Wu asked.

"He came by himself." Yan Tianxiao's brows sank even further. "According to the reports I received, Yun Che had also ventured into the Burning Moon Realm by himself before it was turned upside-down."

"But this isn't a bad thing." Yan Tianxiao's voice grew low and deep. "Since he's already come, this king wants to see just what sort of man he really is!"

"No!" Yan Wu said as she slowly raised her head to look at Yan Tianxiao. Her eyes glimmered with dark light as she continued, "Let me test him first... Royal father, we should also do one more thing. We need to prepare a most excellent tomb for him! After all, we can't let him come away from this trip empty-handed."

"Hahahaha." The Yama Emperor had been briefly stunned by Yan Wu's words, but he suddenly erupted into laughter after that. "You are indeed my, Yan Tianxiao's, daughter. You really do possess the demeanour and attitude that this king possessed in his early days."

"..." Yan Jie laughed along with him, but the hands he held behind his back silently tensed up.

[Chapter 1676 - The Trembling Yaksha](#)

Yan Wu left to meet Yun Che, the person who was purported to have killed the Burning Moon Emperor with a single stroke of his sword. However, she did not show any fear or apprehension whatsoever.

“Royal father, are we going to summon ‘them’ to the imperial palace?” Yan Jie asked respectfully.

“No. If we did that, wouldn’t it be showing that our Yama Realm was afraid of this man!?” Yan Tianxiao said. “Jie’er, go and open the barrier surrounding the ‘tomb’.”

Yan Jie was taken aback by those words as he said, “Royal father, could it be that you truly want to...”

“Of course.” Yan Tianxiao’s eyes grew cold and dark. “Do you think this king was joking with Yan Wu just now!?”

“But royal father just said that the death of Fen Daojun and the fall of the Burning Moon Realm were undeniable facts. Even if Yun Che isn’t as incredible as the rumors make him out to be, we definitely can’t afford to underestimate him.”

“He definitely has an ace up his sleeve. If not, he wouldn’t have come here by himself. If we do something rash before figuring that out, there is a possibility... there is a possibility that...”

Yan Tianxiao glanced to the side as he said, “Fen Daojun was someone who sought to protect his throne at all costs and he lived his life according to one principle, ‘stability’. Yet someone still took his life and plundered his home.”

“Now, only a few days have passed and Yun Che has suddenly made an appearance in the heart of our realm. Do you perhaps think that he came here to make small talk and drink some tea? Why do we need to be so polite to him!?”

“Furthermore, his arrival came far sooner than this king thought it would and has caught me off guard. In fact, I can’t even begin to fathom what he plans to achieve by coming here today. But in such a situation, feigning civility will only cause us to lose our advantage! Why would we even bother playing nice!?” A cold light flashed in the Yama Emperor’s eyes as he said those words.

Yan Jie cupped his hands and said, “This child is only afraid that it might...”

“This king knows what you are worried about,” the Yama Emperor said in a cold voice. “But do not forget why Yun Che even came to the Northern Divine Region in the first place. He was chased here by the Eastern Divine Region and if he could use that power at will, there is no way he would have fallen into such dire straits.”

“If we trick him into entering a ‘tomb’, he is walking towards certain death and we will get rid of this budding calamity. However... if he can survive even the ‘tombs’, then all of the schemes that this king can employ against him will be useless.”

“I see.” Yan Jie finally understood.

Indeed, if Yun Che could truly unleash the power that he used to kill Fen Daojun one more time, if he could escape even from those “tombs”, then everything they could do to him would be useless. Since that was the case, then their best option would be to settle the question once and for all!

If they could bury him, they would resolve this imminent catastrophe. If they could not, they would simply submit... In fact, they would have no choice but to submit.

"It's good that you understand. You're my crown prince yet you seem to be scared of your own shadow. You are far too lacking in this aspect when compared to Yan Wu," Yan Tianxiao said with a cold snort.

"Royal father's instruction is right." Yan Jie immediately bowed his head and said in a sincere voice, "Little Wu's talent is extraordinary and her cunning is slowly approaching royal father's. This child will definitely work much harder from now on."

"What are you waiting for?"

"This child obeys."

Yan Jie left after saying those words. As he stared at his rapidly departing back, Yan Tianxiao let out a small sigh. His dark and severe gaze finally started to soften as he said, "Jie'er, it is not easy to be king. Wu'er's superiority is your greatest test. If you can't even endure this small amount of pressure..."

"Don't disappoint me."

Yun Che was standing outside the Yama Imperial District when two clusters of gloomy black light suddenly shone from the empty eye-sockets of the devil skull. After that, the ghastly-white mouth of the skull slowly started to stretch open.

A woman wearing body-hugging black armor slowly walked out of the skull's mouth. Her figure was graceful and willowy, and her cold gaze was so sharp that it seemed to pierce straight through Yun Che.

Behind her, the Yama Guards bowed deeply. "Welcome, Lady Yaksha."

Since the woman hadn't said anything, the guards dared not move a muscle.

"Yaksha Yan Wu." She gave out her own name. "Are you Yun Che?"

The daughter of the Yama Emperor and the leader of the Yama Devils was a woman only Chi Wuyao could beat... Yun Che watched her with narrowed eyes for a moment before saying, "Take me to the Yama Emperor."

When the news that Yan Sangeng was killed reached the Yama Realm, the report stated that Yun Che was only a Divine Sovereign. Every Yama Devil was certain that the rumors were mistaken back then.

After they heard how the Burning Moon Realm went down, the thought that Yun Che was just a Divine Sovereign became even less believable to say the least.

But now that the man himself—cold and unfeeling—was standing right in front of her, her senses informed her clearly that he couldn't be anything but a level eight Divine Sovereign!

He really was only one level higher than the rumors said he was.

"Good." Yan Wu did not waste time spouting any niceties. "Follow me."

Bang!

Yun Che kicked aside the shattered corpse at his feet before saying in a dry voice, "I took care of a rather foolish man. You don't mind, do you?"

The expressions of all the Yama Guards who were kneeling on the ground changed dramatically... This was the Yama Imperial District! He was speaking to one of the Yama Devils, the Yaksha! No one had ever dared be so impudent to the Yaksha before!

Even the god emperors of the other king realms would not behave in such a manner.

"Heh." Yan Wu chuckled coldly. "Since he seems to have been a blind fool, if he died, he died."

Once she said that, she waved her hand. A devilish wind swirled and the dismembered body on the ground immediately turned into dust that filled the air. "Are you satisfied?"

It was a gust of wind yet it still brought along a pressure that made space tremble.

The woman before them was the person second to the Yama Emperor in the Yama Realm... in terms of strength, she was no less than Qianye Qing'er at her peak.

As for the current Yun Che, he had been doubly promoted by the Law of Nothingness and the Eternal Calamity of Darkness in the span of a few years. Everyone he met thus far were personages of this caliber.

Which also meant that he was getting closer and closer to his goal.

Yun Che glanced at her with narrowed eyes. "Let's go."

Black fog shrouded the Yama Imperial District and the aura of darkness was extremely dense here.

This place was undoubtedly a paradise for dark creatures, but only dark creatures. It was unlikely that the average profound practitioner of the divine way—a profound practitioner from the three divine regions—could survive for very long in this place.

The Yama Imperial District was unusually silent. Wherever Yan Wu went, the world turned deathly quiet. Every time a Yama Realm profound practitioner sensed her aura, they would kneel on the ground and stay that way until Yan Wu was far, far away from them. Not a single person dared to disrespect her in the slightest.

Yakshas were said to be evil spirits which inhabited hell. The terrifyingly powerful woman in front of him seemed to resemble them despite her bewitching appearance and devilish figure. An aura of unrelentingly malicious cruelty radiated from her body like a wave of heat.

"I heard that Young Master Yun killed a god emperor with a single stroke of his sword in the Burning Moon Realm, an act that shocked the world."

The duo walked like this for a long time before Yan Wu finally spoke. "Royal father was very impressed when he heard it. He was also very glad that someone like you would make the effort to visit us."

"If I might be so bold, why have you come here? You probably don't know this because you were born in the Eastern Divine Region, but we Northern Divine Regioners very much dislike people visiting us without warning. Frankly, we would've thrown you out of our realm if you weren't an honored guest."

Yan Wu was clearly trying to taunt him into something.

However, she didn't get a word of reply despite waiting for a very long time.

When she finally couldn't wait for a response any longer and shot Yun Che a sideways glance, she noticed that Yun Che was staring toward the front with an indifferent expression exactly like before. It was as if he hadn't even looked in her general direction since she showed up, much less responding to her question.

It was as if he was telling her that she wasn't worthy of him speaking.

She was the daughter of the Yama Emperor, the leader of the Yama Devils and a level ten Divine Master... and this man thought that she was unworthy to speak with!?

Yan Wu looked away and fell silent again. Although she wasn't angry, a cold gleam had flashed across her eyes.

When it came to matters of pride, no one was more prideful than her!

"We are here."

A long and oppressive silence later, Yan Wu stopped in front of the mouth of a giant, devilish skeleton. With her back facing Yun Che, she said, "Past this door is the Devil Palace of Eternal Darkness. Royal father is waiting for you inside. After you."

That was what she said, but she was the one who moved first and walked through the door.

Yun Che barely took a step or two toward the door when a sheen of black light suddenly flashed from the devilish skeleton's teeth and transformed into a barrier of darkness. The dark energy emanating from the barrier was powerful enough to send a man into despair.

It was the door that stood between the Devil Palace of Eternal Darkness, the residence of the Yama Emperor and Yama Devils and the outside world. It didn't take an imaginative mind to know how powerful the barrier was. Not even a late stage Divine Master would be able to break through such a barrier in a short time.

"Oh?" Yan Wu looked back at Yun Che as if she just recalled something. A half-smile ghosting her lips, she said, "I almost forgot to tell you, but only a cultivator of the Yama Devil Art can pass through the barrier without interruption."

"That being said, you are a man who can kill even the Burning Moon God Emperor in one strike, aren't you, Young Master Yun? I'm sure you don't need my help to unlock this barrier."

She raised her eyebrows and the corner of her lips into a thin sneer. She didn't bother to hide the contempt she felt for Yun Che.

It wasn't just because Yun Che was an unwelcome presence. She was also taking revenge for his earlier purposeful disregard of her... after all, no one had ever dared to look down on her, the Yaksha of Yama Devils until today!

But Yun Che didn't grow angry or annoyed as she predicted him to. His eyes didn't betray even the slightest movements.

He took a step forward and raised a finger. Then, he poked the barrier like he was poking a bubble.

Pop!

His finger pierced the barrier of darkness like it was made of rotten paper.

“!!!!”

Yan Wu's pupils shrank like they were being stabbed by poisonous needles.

She was the strongest Yama Devil of her realm besides the Yama Emperor himself, and she was a level ten Divine Master. The number of things that could unsettle her could probably be counted on one hand. But right now, both her heart and her soul were writhing in shock at the same time.

Screech~~~~~

An impossibly shrill noise rang from the center of the barrier. It was almost as if the inanimate energy had come alive and was screaming in pain. A moment later, cracks formed all over the barrier before it collapsed completely.

Boom!!

The barrier was the accumulation of the power of several powerful Yama Devils. It contained enough power to destroy an entire world. When it collapsed, a whirlpool of darkness was formed where black energy poured into the crack in space. The storm of darkness lasted for several breaths before it dissipated completely.

Despite standing in the middle of the black storm, Yun Che was completely untouched by the chaotic energy. Not even his hair was ruffled while the storm was running its course.

Yan Wu's expression was stiff and frozen. Yun Che withdrew his hand casually before smiling disdainfully right back at her. “Is this the barrier the Yama Devils use to protect themselves? What can it possibly protect you from? Fleas?”

If this was a barrier forged from normal profound energy, Yun Che would have had to use the Ice Flame of Nothingness to destroy it in one hit.

But this darkness barrier... was a joke before him.

Yan Wu swiftly erased her stiff expression. Her gaze stood unchanged as a faint smile appeared on her lips. “And that's why I said that this barrier couldn't hinder you at all.”

She looked unsurprised but when she spoke those words, the corner of her lips slightly trembled.

No one was as clear as Yan Wu, who was the head of the Yama Devils, about how terrifying this barrier was.

Forget her, even her father, Yan Tianxiao would find it hard to break it within such a short period of time.

Yun Che... had actually used a finger to lightly poke it!?

She wasn't able to sense any profound energy fluctuation from his body, let alone his finger.

Yan Wu's vigilance, coldness, and pride had been sent scattered by that scene, leaving behind a shock that she had never felt before.

Using a single finger to break the Devil Palace of Eternal Darkness's protective barrier was a power that shouldn't exist in this world.

Adding on the rumor that he had killed the Burning Moon God Emperor in a single strike...

Did he really possess power at the level of the True Gods!?

And he seemed to be able to use it at will too!

In front of something that completely exceeded common sense and what she could accept, even someone like her who was both the Yama Emperor's daughter and the number one Yama Devil could not maintain her calm and arrogance.

Yun Che directly passed by her and walked toward the humongous palace brimming with imperious might.

Eleven pitch-black devil skeletons stood in front of the devil palace. Six stood to the left and five stood to the right, symbolizing the Yama Realm's eleven different Yama Devil powers.

When Yun Che approached, it was as if the originally silent devil skeletons suddenly awakened from their slumber. They released eleven thick black beams and let out terrible wails.

"This is the Weeping Yama Formation left behind by our ancestors."

Behind him, Yan Wu explained. "If it isn't leashed by a Yama Devil, intruders will inevitably..."

Before she had yet to finish her sentence, she saw Yun Che step into the skeleton formation.

"Wuaaaaooooo!!!"

Devilish wails thundered in the air as black light erupted from all eleven devil skeletons. The surging darkness profound energy resembled pitch-black lava spouting from an angry volcano.

The power of the eleven devil skeletons came from the Yama Emperor and the ten Yama Devils' personal injections of power so its might could easily be imagined. Even if a god emperor were to rashly enter, the moment it broke out, they would certainly get injured.

He's courting death.... Those three words flashed through Yan Wu's mind as her eyes dramatically widened.

In front of the eleven sinister howls and the devil skeletons' outbreak of Yama energy, Yun Che reached out with both hands and lightly pushed.

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The devilish light shining from the devil skeletons instantly stopped surging from their bodies and even their sinister wailing came to an abrupt stop.

“!?” Yan Wu’s black eyes widened and the words she was about to say were firmly caught in her throat.

A scene that was even more terrifying than the last soon followed.

Yun Che very casually swept both of his arms in the direction of the eleven devil skeletons. Immediately, eleven clusters of black devilish light went completely still before they grew exceptionally dim.

They had not completely disappeared, but instead, the clusters of light shrank back into the devil skeletons. They still continued to flicker dimly but they had become exceptionally calm and peaceful.

As the strongest Yama Devil, Yan Wu had seen an innumerable number of darkness profound arts in her life. Furthermore, her innate talent and her mastery over darkness profound energy had already reached the peak of perfection and very few people in this universe could call themselves her equal...

But this was the first time in her life she had ever seen darkness profound energy behave in such a docile and weak manner.

No. In fact... this was the first time she had known that darkness profound energy could be this meek and docile!

The eleven peacefully flickering clusters of devilish light illuminated Yun Che’s body. They did not radiate any malice or pressure. Instead, they actually showed a degree of submission... and even fear amidst this inexplicable calm.

The power within these devil skeletons had come from the Yama Emperor and his Ten Yama Devils!

“Your lanterns aren’t bad.”

After Yun Che made that sardonic little comment, he started to move once more, walking straight toward the imperial palace.

“...” Yan Wu remained rooted to the spot. She stood there for a very long time before her eyes finally shuddered and she swiftly ran after Yun Che.

When she passed through the Weeping Yama Formation, she suddenly slowed down and thrust out a palm toward the devil skeleton that contained her Yama Devil power.

After that, her expression violently changed.

Because the devil skeleton that her palm was pointed toward, the devil skeleton that she had just injected power into half a month earlier... did not respond to her at all!

Her head violently turned toward Yun Che as her eyes involuntarily shuddered. Her heart had been thrown into utter chaos and she felt as if countless hurricanes were raging about inside of it.

So the rumors... were true?

Power that had reached the domain of the True Gods...

Why did such a power exist in this universe? Why did such a person...

Was the Northern Divine Region... really going to be utterly flipped upside down?

Yun Che's figure blurred as he arrived at the front of the imperial palace. After that, he strode in with a swagger.

This was the Yama Imperial District, the heart of the strongest king realm in the Northern Region. The Yama Emperor stood to the fore with his Yama Devils flanking him. The Yama Ghosts were merely guards amongst the countless elite fighters lurking within its halls.

Yet he had come here by himself. He had entered this palace with no one by his side.

This was something that the Yama Realm had never seen before.

After all, even a god emperor would come surrounded by strong individuals when they paid a visit to the capital of another king realm.

However, this was not the first time Yun Che had strode into a king realm alone.

In fact, he had charged into the Star God Realm all by himself for Jasmine's sake all those years ago. At that time, he had gone in with the expectation of dying.

Things were different this time. He did not feel any fear and apprehension as he strode to meet the Yama Emperor and his heart did not even ripple when he sensed his vast and boundless dark aura.

The atmosphere in the vast imperial palace was deathly still and there was only one other person in the hall besides Yan Tianxiao... It was Yama Crown Prince Yan Jie, who had already accomplished his "mission".

When Yun Che stepped into the hall, Yan Jie's gaze locked onto him.

Yan Tianxiao slowly turned around as he soundlessly unleashed the imperious might of the strongest god emperor in the Northern Divine Region... However, Yun Che did not falter as he continued to walk forward. His eyes were cold and calm, not a single ripple could be seen in them. The aura of a Divine Sovereign, an aura that could only be described as "pathetically weak" in front of the Yama Emperor, radiated from Yun Che's body. Yet it seemed to resemble an ancient and unfathomably deep pool of water in the face of his imperial might. It had not rippled in the slightest.

Yan Tianxiao gave a small frown. He had finally come face to face with this legend from the Eastern Divine Region, but their meeting was vastly different from how he had imagined it would go.

As the corner of his mouth twitched, he spoke in a calm voice. "You're Yun Che?"

"You killed my Yama Ghost King, yet you still dare to barge into my Devil Palace of Eternal Darkness all by yourself. This king truly has no choice but to admire your..."

However, his eyebrows suddenly jumped before he had finished his sentence.

He saw Yan Wu, who was hurriedly catching up to Yun Che, arrive behind him.

Yan Wu's innate talent in handling darkness profound energy was immense. She had been acknowledged by the Yama Devil power at the age of eleven, so she normally displayed a natural

arrogance around other people. Her arrogance had soared when she shook the entire Northern Divine Region by becoming a level ten Divine Master. Very few people were her equal.

Even when she was dealing with her own elder brother, Yama Crown Prince Yan Jie, she still looked down on him... both physically and in her attitude toward him.

Thus, given Yan Wu's arrogance and her temper, there was no way that she would actually trail behind Yun Che... when she was supposed to be leading him toward the imperial palace.

But what truly shook his heart was the look in her eyes.

Her eyes were actually trembling lightly and he could see a frightened shock in the depths of her eyes... A shock that she obviously could not conceal.

The one person who understood Yan Wu the best in this world was undoubtedly Yan Tianxiao.

Yet this was the first time Yan Tianxiao had ever seen such a look in her eyes.

"...boldness!"

He forcefully changed the word from "nerve" to "boldness" mid-sentence. A warm and genial smile instantly spread out on his cold and imperious face and his heavy god emperor might turned exceptionally calm and gentle.

"Hahahaha." He let out a great laugh as his previous arrogance disappeared. He strode forward and took the initiative to welcome Yun Che, "When Brother Yun made his name in the Eastern Divine Region all those years ago, this king had already heard of you. When I found out later that Brother Yun had come to the Northern Divine Region with the Heaven Smiting Devil God's inheritance, this king wanted to meet you right away. It seems like my wish has finally come true."

Yan Jie's jaw very nearly dropped to the ground in that moment.

Just a few breaths ago, the Yama Emperor had sternly warned him not to show any fear or apprehension in front of Yun Che, whether the rumors were true or not. He had said that the dignity of their Yama Realm could not be infringed upon in any way.

When Yun Che had stepped into the hall, the Yama Emperor had greeted him with his imperial power and dignity... but he had suddenly done a complete one-eighty. He was now greeting him warmly and he had even called him "brother".

Bewilderment filled Yan Jie's heart until he noticed the haunted look in Yan Wu's eyes. His heart immediately gave a violent shudder.

Yan Tianxiao was greeting him in an incredibly warm and friendly manner. In fact, he was no less welcoming and approachable than Fen Daojun. Yun Che simply chuckled dryly as he saw this. He said, "Since the Yama Emperor knows that Yama Ghost King Yan Sangeng died at my hands, aren't you going to call me to account first?"

"Hahahaha!" The Yama Emperor let out another great laugh. He had not only not shown any signs of anger, he looked as if he was truly excited to see Yun Che. "It is true that my Yama Realm will not allow our dignity to be trampled upon, but that does not mean we cannot distinguish right from wrong!"

“When he was in the Imperial Heaven Realm, it was Yan Sangeng who did not recognize Brother Yun and offended him first. As a result, Brother Yun chose to discipline him, and it was entirely reasonable for you to do so! If our Yama Realm really tried to take you to task, it would simply show how narrow-minded our number one king realm in the Northern Divine Region is!”

Yun Che, “...”

“What’s more, Brother Yun inherited the power of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor. Your existence is undoubtedly a great gift bestowed upon us by her. You can also say that it is an honor for Yan Sangeng to fall at Brother Yun’s hands.”

Yan Tianxiao said this with an utterly sincere expression on his face. He looked so sincere that Yun Che could not tell if he was bluffing or not.

As he was speaking, he sent a soul sound transmission to Yan Wu. “Wu’er, what happened just now?”

He instantly received Yan Wu’s reply. “Royal father is truly brilliant. You definitely mustn’t clash with him... This man is much too frightening.”

Yan Wu’s sound transmission clearly conveyed the tremors that were coming from the depths of her soul.

If this had been Yan Jie, he would not have been so convinced. However... the person who had gone to meet Yun Che, the person who had returned with a heart full of shock and fear, had been Yan Wu!

“Tell me, what exactly happened just now?” he asked in a deep voice.

“It is very likely that the rumors that he killed Fen Daojun and subsequently subdued the whole Burning Moon Realm without a single fight are true. Yun Che... He... used a single finger to break the Barrier of Eternal Darkness, and silenced the Weeping Yama Formation with a single wave of his hands.”

“WHAAT!?”

Yan Tianxiao had actually let out that startled cry in front of Yun Che.

“Hmm?” Yun Che shot him a glance. “Is something the matter, Yama Emperor?”

“No, it’s nothing,” the Yama Emperor replied with a faint smile as he swiftly regained his composure. “I just received a sound transmission from one of my children and I was informed that he had injured himself during cultivation due to a moment of carelessness. This king grew so anxious that I shouted in front of Brother Yun and embarrassed myself.”

Yan Jie very nearly jumped out of his shoes when Yan Tianxiao let out that yell. He stared at his royal father as shock and bewilderment filled his heart.

As the crown prince of the Yama Realm, he had never once seen the Yama Emperor lose his composure. In fact... he could scarcely believe that the Yama Emperor had actually been put in such a spot.

“So that’s what happened,” Yun Che said with narrowed eyes, his voice loose and languid. “To think that the Yama Emperor, the ruler of a king realm, would actually get so anxious over one of his children. How

touching. Since that is the case, the Yama Emperor should hurry over to tend to the child. I wouldn't want to be responsible if something were to happen to the child."

"Hoho, there's no need. It's only a small matter." The Yama Emperor's smile did not waver for a single instant, but his heart and soul were shaking so violently that he did not notice the mockery in Yun Che's words.

Yan Wu's lively voice suddenly rang out in his soul.

"Royal father, this child witnessed everything that he did. There is nothing false about him. The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor's inheritance very likely far exceeds our imaginations."

"We must find a way to lure him into the 'tomb'. The only people who can kill him are our three immortal and indestructible ancestors!"

"If we do not, our Yama Realm will truly follow in the Burning Moon Realm's path!"

Yan Tianxiao's fingers slowly curled up. Although his face was calm, he was unable to conceal the violent trembling of his eyes, no matter how hard he tried.

He had broken the Barrier of Eternal Darkness with a single finger, destroyed the Weeping Yama Formation with a single strike of his palm... This was beyond the ability of any power that he recognized.

In fact, if Yan Wu had not personally vouched for it, he would not be able to believe that these things were true.

"Ahem. Why did Brother Yun choose to pay us a visit today?" The Yama Emperor's smile remained fixed on his face as he stretched out a hand and gestured to Yun Che to sit.

Yun Che did not move a single inch. Instead, he replied, "The journey from the Soul Stealing Realm to the Yama Realm is long indeed. If it wasn't anything important, I wouldn't have bothered coming all the way here."

He was face to face with the strongest god emperor in the Northern Divine Region, and one could say that he was facing off against the entire Yama Realm, yet he was behaving in an extremely standoffish, arrogant, and rude manner.

However, no matter how badly he behaved, he could not stir up the other party's wrath or killing intent. Instead, the Yama Emperor was growing more and more apprehensive.

The Yama Emperor had previously tried to covertly probe Yun Che and exert pressure on him, yet he did not dare try a single thing with him right now. His attitude had turned so friendly that even he could scarcely believe it.

"That's natural." Yun Che's words caused his heart to tighten up. However, he did not flinch as he asked, "Could Brother Yun please tell us what he needs. If we can help Lord Devil Emperor's successor in any way, our Yama Realm has no reason to reject you."

Yan Jie, who was standing on the sidelines, had kept to himself the entire time. He had not made a single move or said a single word. Because the current Yan Tianxiao was behaving in such a kind and amicable manner that he barely recognized him... In fact, he was actually a little afraid of him.

Yan Wu had also remained silent this entire time, but her eyes still had not stopped shaking.

To Yun Che, this was something that he could easily accomplish with the Eternal Calamity of Darkness. But what he had just done had undeniably overturned her entire world.

“Since the Yama Emperor is being so welcoming, I’ll cut to the chase,” Yun Che said in a calm and unhurried manner. “I want to take a look at your Yama Realm’s Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness.”

When he said those words, the heads of Yan Tianxiao, Yan Wu, and Yan Jie all jerked in unison.

Yan Tianxiao had been furiously thinking of a way to lure Yun Che into the “tomb” of certain death. Before he could come up with an idea, Yun Che had actually suggested it himself?

“This...” A pained expression appeared on Yan Tianxiao’s face as he said, “Given your friendship with the Devil Queen, I am sure that Brother Yun knows that only the people of the Yama Realm can enter the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness. Furthermore, the three venerable ancestors of our Yama Realm live in that place, so this king is afraid that...”

“This is the will of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor,” Yun Che said in a bleak and cold voice.

[Chapter 1678 - Bone Sea Abyss](#)

“The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor!?” Yan Tianxiao reacted loudly. He seemed to be intimidated by the words “Devil Emperor”.

Yun Che said, “Before the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor left, she told me that there is a place at the center of the Northern Divine Region that is overflowing with dark energy, probably because it is the graveyard of many primordial devils. It is the best place to cultivate darkness profound energy in the current world.”

“Do you understand my meaning, Yama Emperor?”

Apparently, Yun Che wanted to cultivate in the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness.

He even brought up the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor as a threat to make him comply.

Whether it was his true intention or not, he clearly desired to enter the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness. It was also true that it was currently the best place to cultivate darkness profound energy in the entire Primal Chaos Dimension.

“This...” Yan Tianxiao looked hesitant. He suddenly turned toward his son before asking, “Jie’er, how is the barrier of the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness right now?”

Picking up his meaning immediately, Yan Jie replied, “Royal father, the ancestors haven’t gone into secluded cultivation lately. They also gave me the order to enter the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness and cultivate eight hours per day, so they haven’t closed off the area.”

Yan Tianxiao exhaled slightly. “I guess it is fate after all.”

“If this is the will of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor, then this king can make an exception for Brother Yun. However... it is ultimately up to the ancestors to decide whether they’ll tolerate your presence or not.”

“Very well.” Yun Che nodded. His stiff expression finally relaxed a little into a satisfied smile. “Thank you for accommodating me, Yama Emperor.”

“Hehe, you’re welcome, Brother Yun.” Yan Tianxiao let out a chuckle before continuing, “Speaking of which, would you like to take a rest before...”

“No need.” Yun Che raised a hand. “We’ll go to the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness right now.”

Yan Tianxiao stopped trying and nodded. “Very well. This king will lead you there myself just in case he needs to put in a good word for you.”

He waved a hand at Yan Jie and Yan Wu. “You may leave now.” Then, he personally guided Yun Che to the entrance of the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness.

One of them looked urgent, and the other one looked hesitant. However, they both looked forward to the moment Yun Che got close to the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness.

The Yama Emperor’s temperament was very different from the Burning Moon God Emperor’s. He was a tyrannical and decisive man who feared nothing and no one. He never even had to consider the consequences of his actions because he was secure in the knowledge that the Yama Realm couldn’t be defeated no matter what.

That was the case until Yun Che had arrived.

The moment he met Yun Che, he had forcefully changed his usual behavior and suppressed his mighty presence.

Yan Tianxiao wasn’t so stupid that he would act all high and mighty toward everyone.

Still, this was definitely the first time he had changed his behavior so drastically since he had become the strongest emperor of the Northern Divine Region.

Yun Che was also the first person in the history of Yama Realm to cow the Yama Emperor into obedience with his arrival alone.

The death of Fen Daojun, the collapse of the Burning Moon Realm, the Devil Emperor’s inheritance, the frightened Yan Wu, and Yun Che’s complete lack of fear despite visiting an enemy’s territory all by himself...

It was only natural that the Yama Emperor was afraid to act carelessly.

In reality, all Yan Tianxiao needed to do to take down Yun Che was to turn around and attack him. Yun Che would be lucky to escape with just some serious injuries.

Yun Che was currently deep inside the Devil Palace of Eternal Darkness. Even if Yun Che had the Eternal Calamity of Darkness and Moon Splitting Cascade, he was surrounded by a sea of experts. One misstep, and he might lose his life just like that.

Due to his earlier preparations, the risk of the Yama Emperor attacking him without warning was reduced to a minimal level. Right this moment, the god emperor had neither the courage nor a reason to tempt fate.

He had to thank them for putting him through the Barrier of Eternal Darkness and the Weeping Yama Formation, although he would've found a chance to display his abilities even if they hadn't tested him.

After all, he was the only one who truly understood the power of the Eternal Calamity of Darkness. Its power could grind anyone's common sense about the power of darkness into powder, much less scare the living daylight out of the Yama Emperor.

The entrance to the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness lay at the center of the Devil Palace of Eternal Darkness.

A cold, dark wind brushed past the duo's skin when they entered a huge, dark hall. The end of the hall was covered in dozens of darkness formations, and at the center of them was a black, bottomless pit where not even a ray of light could be seen.

Yun Che released his spiritual perception. The darkness energy flowing out of the open maw was so thick that it almost clung to the body. Occasionally, he could hear terrifying noises that sounded like the wails of devils or ghouls.

"This, is the entrance to the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness."

Yan Tianxiao's expression was serious and devout as he introduced the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness to Yun Che.

It was the place that made Yama Realm an unbeatable realm in the history of the Northern Divine Region after all.

However, dozens of thoughts were spinning rapidly behind his solemn appearance.

Yan Tianxiao was tempted to ask Yun Che a couple of questions and test him on the way to the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness, but he ultimately stopped himself because he was worried that he would slip up and alarm Yun Che.

He was clearly overthinking things.

"The yin energy of the remains of the ancient devils is truly extraordinary," Yun Che muttered seemingly to himself as he stared at the bottomless abyss.

"But of course," Yan Tianxiao said. "It wouldn't have drawn the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor's attention otherwise."

They were about a hundred meters away from the gaping maw that was the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness. However, Yan Tianxiao didn't relax in the slightest.

There was no way Yun Che came all the way here without knowing about the three immortal Yama Ancestors. Anyone who was trapped inside the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness must face a trio of unkillable monsters who could regenerate their strength at a moment's notice. Even if the victim was a person of unparalleled power, death was their only possible fate.

Even if this person possessed power that transcended even the highest power of the current world, there was no way they could outlast the three Yama Ancestors.

There was no way Yun Che and the Soul Stealing Realm wouldn't know this.

Equally, he refused to believe that Yun Che had come all the way here without any preparation whatsoever.

Countless thoughts flashed across Yan Tianxiao's mind, but he wiped everything away when he arrived at his final decision. All that was left behind his pupils was a hidden gleam of ruthlessness.

"Brother Yun." Yan Tianxiao looked hesitant as he said, "this king has no qualms about you entering the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness. However, the three ancestors..."

"Are you worried that the three ancestors will deny me, Yama Emperor?" Yun Che said without looking away from the entrance to the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness. It was almost as if he was too lazy to speak with Yan Tianxiao now that his destination was right in front of him. His pupils were gleaming with black excitement.

"You do not know this, Brother Yun," Yan Tianxiao said as he let out a sigh, "but this is where the three venerable ancestors..."

Boom!!!

Yun Che was struck above the waist before the sorrowful-sounding word could even fade into the distance.

He truly deserved to be called the strongest god emperor of the Northern Divine Region. Not only did his attack come out of nowhere, he moved faster than any living being could possibly react.

Although the strike was swift and sudden, the strength behind it was still as great as the heavens. The instantaneous eruption of divine power shook even the blue sky above.

Pfff!

Yun Che vomited a mouthful of blood as he flew toward the black abyss like a meteor. He was traveling so quickly that it caused a shrill noise that sounded like air was being shredded.

Yan Tianxiao was caught off guard by the splatter of blood, but his hands didn't slow in the slightest. The profound formations collapsed upon the entrance to the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness in an instant and sealed it completely.

Rumble

The spinning profound formations merged into one before they were linked to the great protective formation that surrounded the Yama Imperial District itself. In the end, it became the most despair-inducing sealing formation the Northern Divine Region had ever known.

That was how Yun Che was sealed inside the "tomb" of his doom.

The eruption of his power and the sudden sealing of the profound formations startled everyone in the Devil Palace of Eternal Darkness into action. The Yama Devils who had already heard of Yun Che's arrival quickly rushed to their god emperor's aid.

But all they saw was Yan Tianxiao standing alone at the center of the hall and the profound formation which was completely sealed. Yun Che was nowhere to be seen.

“Did you succeed, royal father?” Yan Jie asked urgently.

“Mn,” Yan Tianxiao replied indifferently.

“That’s good.” Yan Wu let out a huge sigh of relief, but she quickly noticed that her father was wearing an odd expression. She frowned and asked, “What else is wrong, royal father?”

“No, nothing’s wrong.” Yan Tianxiao shook his head before staring at the blood that was seeping into his palm. “I just realized that he played us for a fool, that’s all.”

“What?” The Yama Devils exclaimed in shock and tensed up instinctively.

“Hmph, settle down. This king is talking about something else.” Yan Tianxiao made a grabbing motion with his palm before turning toward Yan Wu. “Wu’er, what Yun Che showed you was probably the special abilities of the Eternal Calamity of Darkness.”

“Since it is the power of the Devil Emperor, it’s only natural that it exceeded your recognition.”

“However, his actual strength is... hmph!” Yan Tianxiao humphed loudly. “He is stronger than what you would expect from a Divine Sovereign, but he is of no threat to us at all. To think that he managed to fool even me!”

“What... do you mean?” Yan Wu asked.

Yan Tianxiao showed his palm to his subjects. It was covered in Yun Che’s blood. “This king had to act swiftly just now, so I managed to gather only twenty percent of my strength at most. this king was hoping to catch him off guard with the surprise attack before knocking him into the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness using the profound formations and my full power.”

“This strike alone was all it took to knock him down into the pit and injure him seriously... what a joke!”

When Yan Tianxiao recalled how wary and friendly he had acted toward Yun Che, he clenched his fists so tightly that his joints were popping. It was the greatest humiliation he had to suffer since he became a god emperor.

While the Yama Devils were frowning deeply, Yan Jie said, “So everything he did earlier was...”

“Hmph. He came alone and acted arrogantly and rudely. It was all to heighten our sense of danger,” Yan Tianxiao said coldly. “No wonder he came so quickly. He was trying to hit us while we were still intimidated by what he did to the Burning Moon Realm!”

“The power he used to kill Fen Daojun isn’t his normal strength. In fact, it might’ve been a once-in-a-lifetime power. We were this close to falling for his and the Devil Queen’s trick!”

If he hadn’t acted decisively and ruthlessly, who knew how long he would’ve been led by the nose by Yun Che.

Yan Wu stared at the blood in Yan Tianxiao’s hand intently. She started recalling the time Yun Che had broken the Barrier of Eternal Darkness and the Weeping Yama Formation.

What he did was still impressive and terrifying, but now that she thought about it, there were barely any fluctuations in his profound energy at all. It was closer to a special power that transcended her recognition than brute strength.

"I see now," Yan Wu muttered to herself in anger and humiliation. "His courage is commendable though."

"He was planning to do something big, and his opponent was us, the Yama Devils. A lesser man wouldn't be able to attempt what he did." There was admiration in Yan Tianxiao's voice as well.

"We could've spared our venerable ancestors the trouble of killing him, but the outcome is the same in the end." Yan Tianxiao's eyes flashed darkly. "There is no place to run in the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness, and who knows... the three ancestors might be able to force out the secret of the Eternal Calamity of Darkness from him."

"If they could strip the Devil Emperor's inheritance from him, then even better!"

Yun Che's descent into darkness was long and swift, but the impact he was waiting for didn't come.

Wind infused with yin energy roared past his ears. The deeper he fell, the more violent the yin energy became.

Grudge, hatred, death, killing intent... all kinds of negative emotions were blasting against his face with a repulsive stench. Any person in his situation would believe that they were falling toward the mythical purgatory.

"Cough... cough cough!"

Yun Che's cough was soft, but blood spilled out of his mouth every time he coughed.

Although the breakthrough in the Great Way of the Buddha had transformed his body entirely, what hit him was the power of a god emperor. Not even he could endure it without pitting all the power he possessed against it.

Another level eight Divine Sovereign would've been crushed to bits already.

Normally, Yun Che would've recovered from this level of injury in no time. But since he was falling into the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness and soaking in an insane amount of darkness profound energy, his recovery speed was several times faster than before.

Even now, he was recovering at an exponential rate.

Fifteen minutes... thirty minutes...

Yun Che didn't accelerate toward the ground. He simply allowed himself to free fall through the air for forty five minutes straight before his feet finally slammed the bottom of the abyss.

The particular area he landed in wasn't completely covered in darkness. Countless devil bones were gleaming with phosphorescence. But instead of chasing away the terror, the tiny light only made the world of darkness even scarier and more oppressive than it already was.

The devil bones came in all shapes and sizes. Some of them were several thousand meters long. Some of them were relatively intact. Plenty more had turned into broken fragments of darkness.

The darkness profound energy here was so thick that it was practically solid. Yun Che almost felt like he was floating in the middle of a water current. Darkness profound energy roared into every corner of his body like miniature tempests without any intent from him at all.

Three breaths after his feet landed on solid ground, the injury Yan Tianxiao gave him... had healed completely.

Tap!

“Heh... hehe... hehehehe...”

Suddenly, the sound of tumbling bones and a twisted laugh came from somewhere in the darkness. It made the black graveyard even scarier than before.

Yun Che slowly turned toward the direction where the sinister laughter had come from. But the expression on his face was not of fear, but a cruel sneer.

[Chapter 1679 - The Three Yama Ancestors](#)

“Heehee... Heeheeheehee... fresh meat has finally been delivered to our doorstep.”

This was human speech, but no one would believe that it had been uttered by a human.

Because this voice was so hoarse that it sounded like metal scraping against metal. It sounded so dark and sinister that it resembled the low and terrifying moan made by evil spirits.

“It’s a level eight Divine Sovereign. Could this be the Yun Che that scamp Yan Jie was talking about?”

A different person spoke this time, but his voice was just as hoarse and hard to understand as the first one, and it grated against Yun Che’s soul.

“Hehhehheh... It looks like you’re right. But he got thrown in here pretty quickly huh... Heehehheh... This truly disappoints this old ghost.”

A third voice rang out in the air and it sounded like teeth being ground together. The sound was so harsh and ugly that it caused Yun Che’s heart to spasm as those words entered his ears.

However, their auras were far more terrifying than their voices. They were as vast and boundless as the ocean and they radiated a dark oppressive might that was as heavy as ten thousand mountains.

Furthermore, they had not fully unleashed their auras yet. This was the spiritual pressure that naturally radiated from their bodies. But Yun Che could already tell that these three auras were no weaker than Yan Tianxiao when he had attacked him.

No, in fact, two of these people were clearly stronger than him!

And Yan Tianxiao was publicly acknowledged as the strongest god emperor in the Northern Divine Region! Chi Wuyao had also mentioned in the soul message that she had sent Yun Che that she was weaker than Yan Tianxiao when it came to cultivation alone.

However, there were now two auras that exceeded Yan Tianxiao's aura in strength and the third one seemed no weaker than his.

This was a world-shaking discovery that would rock the Northern Divine Region for a very long time. It even caused Yun Che to pause in amazement. Though it was not fear that was reflected in his eyes after this discovery. It was... an excitement that seemed to burn like a raging fire.

In the end, they were still old monsters who had inherited the original True Devil blood and basked in this ancient dark yin energy for nearly a million years. They had not disappointed him one bit!

Rather than not disappointing him, it would be better to call this a pleasant surprise!

Even if a human reached the very limits of his race, he still would not be able to compare to the emperor of dragons, Long Bai. That was the difference between the two races.

However, the two stronger Yama Ancestors among this trio were definitely no weaker than the strongest god emperors of the Eastern and Southern Divine Regions, Qianye Fantian and Nan Wansheng!

The weakest was no weaker than the Eternal Heaven God Emperor, Zhou Xuzi!

This was a huge amount of power!

But alas, in order to attain this power and longevity, they had no choice but to hole up in this place and never see the light of day ever again!

In Yun Che's eyes, their lives could not even be compared to the lives of domesticated livestock, much less the god emperors!

Crack, crack, crack!

The sound of devil bones being stepped on slowly drew nearer. Yun Che's gloomy black eyes pierced the darkness and he slowly made out three figures which resembled evil spirits within this gloom.

That's right, evil spirits!

These three black figures were equally hunched over and withered. Their exposed skin was as ashen as a corpse and it seemed to be wrapped tightly around their shrunken bones. Their four limbs were even more thin and withered than the branches of a truly dead ... They barely had any characteristics of a living human.

In fact, if they were to lie down on the ground motionless, everyone would believe that these were three withered corpses.

However, the movement of their withered limbs and the gloomy and hellish light that glinted in their eyes showed that they were still alive! Yes, they resembled three "ghosts" who were actually still alive!

"Yan Wanchi, Yan Wanhun, Yan Wangui."

Yun Che's lips curved up as he muttered the names of the Three Yama Ancestors under his breath.

During the earliest part of the Northern Divine Region's history, it was these Three Yama Ancestors who had found the devil blood and Yama Devil Art left behind by the Primordial Yama Devils. They had conquered the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness and established the Yama Realm, a power which would dominate the entire history of the Northern Divine Region.

Their accomplishments and achievements echoed down through the generations.

They had survived to this day but they had been reduced to these miserable, inhuman shapes. It was pitiful and laughable.

The three "corpses" came to a halt. The looks in their eyes changed and that far too-terrifying dark oppressive might which they released started to faintly tremble.

It had been far too long since they had heard their own names.

Yun Che slowly raised a hand, his palm facing the three Yama Ancestors. A cluster of black light gently flickered in his hand as he said, "Yun Che... You three had best carve that name into your very souls."

"Because that is the name of your future master!"

When he said those words in a deep voice, they sounded no different than heavenly law pronouncing their judgement!

Once the three Yama Ancestors heard it, they felt as if someone had injected life and vitality into their souls, souls which had been withered by this interminable darkness. That was because they simply found Yun Che's words too funny. It was a joke that made them crack up in laughter.

"Heh heh... hahahaha... Heehahahahaha..."

Three ghoulish laughs rang out in the air as they overlapped one another. It sounded so harsh and grating that Yun Che thought that thousands of sharp blades were being stabbed into his eardrums.

They laughed in an uproarious and unrestrained manner. The joke they had just heard was practically manna from heaven, causing their shriveled skin to glow with vitality.

"Heehahaha... there are already three crazy old ghosts trapped in this place, but we never expected for a little ghost who is even crazier than us to appear... Heehahaha!"

"Yun Che. This name does indeed match the name of the person the kids told us about. The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor? The Eternal Calamity of Darkness? Killing the Burning Moon God Emperor with a single stroke of his sword? Heeheehee... in the end, it was all nothing but crazy talk."

"So who does this little lunatic's vital energy belong to?"

"However..."

The Yama Ancestor whose aura was the strongest stretched out his hand. As he flexed his withered fingers, dark energy instantly started to swirl in the air. He stared at Yun Che, those old deep-set eyes that resembled pools of inky darkness narrowed into two terrifying slits. "This little ghost is merely a Divine Sovereign, but he can still remain standing in front of us three old ghosts. Not bad."

"Heehheh, since when would a crazy little ghost know the meaning of the word 'fear'?"

The ghoulish figure in the middle slowly walked forward. Every step he took was accompanied by darkness energy that rippled in the air like violent waves. "Little ghost, we three old ghosts have lived for eight hundred and ninety thousand years, and there hasn't ever been anyone who has dared to say something so ridiculous and absurd to us... Heeheehee, in fact, it makes me a little reluctant to suck you dry immediately."

The words "ugly" and "repulsive" could not even begin to describe his sinister smile. If anyone even took a glimpse of it, it would haunt their dreams for years to come.

This talking evil spirit was the boss of the Three Yama Ancestors. The strongest among them, Yan Wanchi.

"Eight hundred and ninety thousand years?" Yun Che started smiling as well. Compared to Yan Wanchi's sinister smile, his smile was filled with a deep derision and pity. "But even three crippled wild dogs can proudly live under the sun."

"Old things who can't even be compared to wild dogs, you actually holed up in this place for more than eight hundred thousand years? How tragic and pathetic is that. Yet you're actually proud of it? Hahahaha..."

He let out a low laugh as he slowly shook his head. The pity that was evident in the curl of his lips stabbed into the Three Yama Ancestors' eyes like a poisoned knife. "You are the three biggest and most pathetic jokes in the history of the Northern Divine Region... Oh no, no, I mean the entire God Realm. Three old bedbugs who were buried in this unbearably noxious place. So where do you even find the shamelessness required to laugh wildly in my face, hmmm?"

The Three Yama Ancestors had lived for an exceedingly long time but their existences had long since become painful to themselves. In fact, it had really become quite pitiful. However, as the Yama Realm's founding ancestors, level ten Divine Masters who had reached the zenith of darkness profound energy, who would dare to insult them even if they truly could be compared to a bedbug? Who would dare to insult them so!?

As the founding ancestors of the Yama Realm, all of the Yama Emperors, past and present, had to treat them with the utmost dignity and respect. They did not even dare do anything which would imply disrespect.

As practitioners of a negative profound energy, it would normally not be possible for them to be enraged by a few words.

Unfortunately, even the strongest spirit would become twisted after being holed up in this place for hundreds of thousands of years.

The souls of the Three Yama Ancestors had long since become incredibly warped and violent. Furthermore, Yun Che's insult was the most humiliating thing they had heard in years and it was aimed directly at their sore spot. There was no doubt it agitated the twisted minds of the Three Yama Ancestors, stirring them up into a frenzy.

"Sssss.... Uwaaaaaaah!" The Three Yama Ancestors shuddered as a frightening black light radiated from their eyes. Wails which did not even sound human ripped from their throats.

“You damn brat!” Yan Wanchi slashed the air with a clawed hand as he howled, “Aren’t you a little too eager to die!?”

“Heh.” Yun Che’s smile grew even more derisive. “Just a few sentences are enough to stir you into a frenzy. Just look at your ugly appearances right now. It looks like even comparing you to bedbugs was doing you a favor.”

“Heeaaaaaaaaaaaaahhh!” The old ghost on the right—second of the Three Yama Ancestors, Yan Wanhun, could no longer hold back any longer. His body shot out as he yelled, “I’ll rip him apart with my bare hands!”

When that small and hunched figure started to barrel through the air, his aura was so vast and boundless that it seemed to cause the clouds to move, it was so strong that it felt like it could crush mountains and flip over the seas.

The ancestral devil blood that the Yama Ancestors had inherited and the Yama Devil Art they cultivated had caused their life force and profound veins to form a strange connection with the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness. This was also the source of their indestructibility and their immortality.

When his power erupted, the entire Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness started to shake and it was accompanied by what sounded like the wailing of countless restless ghosts and evil spirits.

Yun Che did not even move an inch even as Yan Wanhun was rushing toward him. However, a blood-colored profound energy suddenly erupted from his body.

He had opened the Hell Monarch gate!

The Heretic God’s Darkness Seed, the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor’s Eternal Calamity of Darkness... He did not need to make a single movement or thought. The incomparably dense darkness profound energy surrounding them was naturally attracted to him and it crazily surged toward his body at every instant.

As long as he was in this place, he could maintain Hell Monarch indefinitely!

No matter how crazily he used up his power, it still could not match the crazy speed at which it was being replenished.

The blood-colored energy storm which suddenly erupted from Yun Che’s body shocked the Three Yama Ancestors. Yan Wanhun’s body seemed to pause for an instant but Yun Che had now taken the opportunity to lunge at him, his fist aiming for Yan Wanhun’s head.

Bang!

Yan Wanhun had clearly attacked first, but he had ended up taking a punch from Yun Che because of that moment of hesitation.

Power that far exceeded his expectations rocked his body back, but he immediately let out a hoarse yell of rage. Dark explosions rocked the air in front of him, causing space to violently sink in.

The power of a Yama Ancestor was extremely terrifying. A muffled groan leaked from Yun Che’s lips as he was instantly hurt by Yan Wanhun’s wild attacks. An arrow of blood shot from his mouth as he tumbled through the air but Yan Wanhun was already rushing toward him like a ghostly shadow. He

moved so fast that he left sonic booms trailing in his wake. As he darted toward Yun Che, he swiped out a clawed hand.

Riiiiip!

Three huge black scars of energy that seemed to stretch on forever rent the air. This terrifying attack seemed to have torn the entire world into four different pieces.

Pfffft!

Three deep grooves were carved into Yun Che's body, causing bloody mist to explode out of it.

Bang!

Yun Che's body smashed against the ground... But it did not split into four pieces like the Three Yama Ancestors thought it would. Instead, he immediately bounced back to his feet the moment he fell to the ground.

"Hssss!?" Yan Wanhun froze in midair, his widened ancient eyes could scarcely believe what they were seeing.

In the next instant, his deep gray pupils went completely wide.

When Yun Che stood up, the three bloody grooves on his body were so deep that they could see the bones that lay underneath. One of those wounds stretched all the way from his left eyebrow to the right side of his chest, it nearly reached the length of two meters.

This was the rending power of a Yama Ancestor! However, Yun Che had not been ripped apart. In fact, he still wore that cold smile on his face... While still smiling, he slowly stretched out a hand and gently wiped off a smear of blood from his face.

The darkness was howling and it was as if an infinite number of storms were gathering around Yun Che.

Within that bizarre storm, the frightening bloody grooves that had been torn into his body started to close up and heal at a frighteningly fast rate...

One breath passed... then two... and those originally garish and shocking grooves had become shallow wounds with a few traces of blood around them.

Three breaths passed... and the last bit of blood on his body had vanished as well.

Whether it was an external or internal injury... he had completely recovered from it.

Not even the tiniest scar remained.

[Chapter 1680 - Ruler of Darkness](#)

"What is... wrong with that brat?" Yan Wangui asked, puzzled.

Dark profound light swayed chaotically above Yan Wanhun's fingers as he floated in midair. Suddenly, he noticed something and replied, "This brat can absorb the yin energy of this place just like us!"

“Absorb?” Yun Che’s expression was full of disdain. “The three of you are just decrepit ghosts. You think you are worthy of being compared to me?”

“It is true that the darkness of this place kept you alive longer than should be, but at the same time you can never leave this lightless place.”

“But I am its ruler. Do you understand yet!?”

This time, the Three Yama Ancestors didn’t laugh at Yun Che’s delirious claims.

Here in the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness, they were immortal unless someone found a way to remove all the yin energy of this place entirely. Any power they used was replenished in no time, and any injury they suffered would heal at an accelerated pace.

However, when Yan Wanhun dealt a serious blow to Yun Che and damaged his aura, the boy... had returned to full health in just three breaths’ time!

They had been stuck here for who knew how many years, so logically speaking no one should regenerate faster than they did. However, the fact was Yun Che was miles ahead of them in this regard!

There were also other oddities. For example, his power was comparable to that of a late stage Divine Master even though his profound energy clearly belonged to that of a level eight Divine Sovereign.

Yan Wanhun also failed to tear Yun Che to shreds even though he had struck a direct blow to the body!

The Three Yama Ancestors’ souls were twisted for sure, but not even they could fail to realize that the “brat” before them was a monster that exceeded everything they had ever seen or heard of!

“Ruler? Hehehe... I’ve never seen such an arrogant brat in my life.”

“Arrogant and strange.” Yan Wanchi’s eyes flashed repeatedly. “Were the kids telling the truth after all? Could he really have inherited the power of the Devil Emperor?”

“That would be even better, wouldn’t it?”

The black light in their eyes suddenly turned a lot brighter when they had gotten over their initial shock. Even their anger was fully suppressed by the burning flames that were their greed and excitement.

All three of them were possessed by a sudden thought...

If Yun Che truly has the inheritance of the Devil Emperor... if they could find a way to strip it from him... they might just be able to leave this purgatory of darkness!

“Heehee... hahahahaha...”

The Three Yama Ancestors probably had no idea how ugly their laughter sounded, or they were simply past the point of caring. Suddenly, Yan Wangui waved his hands and summoned seven different dark profound formations into existence. Then, he launched them toward Yun Che from multiple directions.

All seven profound formations were either suppression formations or sealing formations. Yun Che had proven himself to be way too valuable to kill during the short time he was here.

It wouldn't be an exaggeration to claim that the profound formations forged by the Yama Ancestors were the strongest darkness profound formations in the world. Not even a god emperor would be able to break out of the septuple confinement without considerable effort.

But Yun Che didn't move a muscle... in the three Yama Ancestors' opinion, it was because he was completely immobilized by their power.

When the first dark profound formation was about to touch Yun Che... Yan Wangui's hands suddenly shook violently.

BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG!

All seven profound formations exploded like balloons the second they struck Yun Che.

Every time a profound formation collapsed, it resulted in a terrible storm of darkness. Seven of them combined could wipe out a small star realm like it was nothing.

But Yun Che was half-grinning and untouched despite being at the center of the storm. The black energy had failed to ruffle his clothes or even his hair, much less injure him.

"...!?" Shock spread across the Three Yama Ancestors' faces again.

He's... not afraid of darkness?

The trio was boiling with excitement when the shock had passed again.

Yan Wangui curled his fingers, let out a weird cry and pounced toward Yun Che like a mad dog. His grayish white fingers were sparkling with black energy as he made a grab for Yun Che's throat.

If this was anywhere else, Yun Che would be feeling an incredible amount of pressure even before the energy got close to him.

But here at the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness, Yun Che simply couldn't sense any threat to his life at all.

Yun Che waved his arm like a sword and launched a Fallen Heavenly Wolf, the combination attack of Fallen Moon Sinking Star and Heavenly Wolf Slash, to the front.

Yan Wangui was unnaturally quick, and it took him only an instant to get close to Yun Che. Suddenly, he noticed that the power he had gathered at the center of his palm was decreasing rapidly as if a void was devouring it from nowhere.

Boom!

Both energies clashed against one another and caused an explosion that seemed to shake the entire Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness.

Yun Che was knocked back around thirty meters by the impact, and his face had turned white for a moment. However, he quickly stopped himself and wiped away the tiny trail of blood dripping down from the corner of his lips, chuckling.

Yan Wangui didn't continue his attack immediately for two reasons. One, he couldn't understand why his power had suddenly grown weaker. Two, he couldn't believe that his power only knocked back a

level eight Divine Sovereign, not to mention that his fingers were screaming in pain and turning numb in some places.

“This brat is seriously strange!” Yan Wangui muttered. “Let’s capture him and carve him open little by little. I really want to know what he’s hiding inside his body!”

Yan Wangui pounced toward Yun Che again and turned his withered hand into a three-hundred meter wide ghost claw. When the ghost claw fell toward Yun Che, the latter charged Yan Wangui and launched a Destroying Sky Decimating Earth with both hands.

There was a loud bang along with a great shattering of bones. This time, Yan Wangui froze in mid-air and entered a stalemate with Yun Che for a short time.

It was the same as before. His profound energy was weakening constantly as if something was devouring his power.

The stalemate only lasted for an instant. Yan Wanhun showed up from the side, tore apart Yun Che’s power and hit him heavily in the chest.

Five bloody, finger-sized holes appeared on Yun Che’s chest immediately as he flew backward. But before his feet could find solid ground, Yan Wanchi appeared next and locked his ghastly claws around Yun Che’s throat.

Bang!!

Yun Che felt a terrible impact behind his back. Yan Wanchi had nailed him to the skeleton of a gigantic devil. At the same time, Yan Wanhun and Yan Wangui appeared like ghosts to grab his right shoulder and his solar plexus respectively.

Yun Che might be the bearer of the Eternal Calamity of Darkness, but his opponents were on the level of god emperors. Any one of them would’ve been too much for Yun Che to fight against, much less all of them at once.

“Heeheehehe...”

The Yama Ancestors’ ugly laughter felt like sandpaper rubbing against one’s heart. Yan Wanchi’s old eyes were shining with black excitement and cruelty as his wretched face moved closer and closer to Yun Che. “Now then. Should we skin you alive or rip out your profound veins first... oh? You’re smiling in this situation? Heehahahaha.”

Yun Che was smiling. Two balls of fiery, golden light suddenly lit up around his pupils.

It was true that the Three Yama Ancestors had completely suppressed his movement and power.

But they were in the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness!

The dark powers here had no master, and he could manipulate all of them however he wanted!

Yan Wanchi frowned when he saw the ring of golden flames around Yun Che’s eyes. The next second, golden light filled his vision.

BOOM

Fire and gold illuminated the pocket world.

For the first time ever, the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness was covered in a sea of fire and light. The light was so bright that it spread as far as hundreds of kilometers away from its source.

“HISSHAAAHHHHHHH!”

All three Yama Ancestors screamed in pain as they were thrown back by the explosion. The world around them was still burning even after their feet found solid ground once more.

It had taken Yun Che only an instant to activate Yellow Spring Ashes!

Not only that, Yellow Spring Ashes normally left the profound practitioner exhausted and low on profound energy after release. But here in the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness, his profound energy was fully restored the instant he unleashed the sea of flames. He never felt like he was spent in the slightest.

Yun Che stepped toward the Three Yama Ancestors and summoned the phoenix flames this time, dying the golden sea of flames red with Red Purgatory Lotus.

Darkness feared light first, and fire a close second.

Although the phoenix flames and the golden crow flames weren't as effective against darkness as the vermilion flames, they were more than enough to make life a living hell for the Three Yama Ancestors.

Still screaming in pain, the trio unleashed their power at random and successfully extinguished both seas of flames in just two breaths. However, those two breaths they spent in those flames gave them more pain than they had ever experienced in their whole lives.

When they stumbled around and faced Yun Che again, they saw that the young man was standing at the same spot and smiling the same sneer just like before... this time though, their emotions were completely overridden by unbridled anger and the desperate need to tear Yun Che into a million pieces.

Yun Che didn't care that he had angered the Yama Ancestors in the slightest. He even praised them for their performance thus far. “Good. Very good. I am glad that I haven't come all the way here for nothing.”

Naturally, Yun Che's “praise” angered and humiliated the Yama Ancestors even more. Hands shaking and teeth chattering, Yan Wanchi let out a laugh that sounded like a breeze from hell. “He... heeheehe... you damnable brat! You will learn the most painful way to die immediately!”

In response, Yun Che narrowed his eyes and said quietly, “Oh no, it is you who will soon learn the consequences of disrespecting your master!”

“DIE!!!”

Yan Wanchi's fury and killing intent were almost physical when he shouted and pounced toward Yun Che. This time, he was a skeletal, devilish shadow that looked solid enough to be real.

Yan Wanhun and Yan Wangui also acted at the same time. They all wanted to tear Yun Che into black dust and kill him in the most painful way imaginable.

Yun Che raised his head and stared at the furious Yama Ancestors in the air.

This time... his pupils shone with a white light that looked like it could devour all the darkness in the world.

He extended his hand and summoned the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword. Then, he swung it gently at the direction of his enemies.

Rumble!

There was a rumble that sounded like the entire Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness itself—millions of kilometers wide—was crumbling, and several world annihilating hurricanes made from an infinite sea of darkness swept toward the Three Yama Ancestors.

The black hurricanes were so huge and terrible that all Three Yama Ancestors turned as pale as paper.

Their so-called unparalleled power was quickly overwhelmed by the black hurricane. Once they ran out of energy, they were thrown far away like they were nothing but bundles of rice straws.

When the Three Yama Ancestors slowly rose to their feet again, they were staring at Yun Che in fear and disbelief.

Somehow... Yun Che had manipulated fifty kilometers of yin energy with just that one gesture!

“What... what’s going on? What did he do!?” Yan Wangui shouted hoarsely.

“It can’t be... it can’t really be...”

“The ultimate devil art of legends... the Eternal Calamity of Darkness!” Yan Wanchi shouted the name that shouldn’t exist in a trembling voice.

Dragging the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword across the floor menacingly, Yun Che slowly walked toward the Three Yama Ancestors and said, “The three of you are just slaves of darkness, but I am the one and only ruler of darkness. Do you understand yet!?”

“Now, I’m going to give you one chance to get on your knees and submit to me. If you do it, I’ll kindly overlook the fact that you’ve overstepped your boundaries.”

Yun Che’s ridiculing smile slowly turned into a cruel sneer. “Remember, this is your only chance. I promise you that you will feel a world of pain if you miss it.”

“Heh... heeheehe!” All Three Yama Ancestors only had laughter to offer Yun Che. It was impossible to tell if it was out of fury or fear.

One thing was certain: they, the founders of the Yama Realm and the highest existences in the history of the Northern Divine Region, weren’t going to get on their knees for anyone, much less submit to a god damn brat.

“Brat...” Yan Wanchi whispered, “There is no one in the world who deserves our knees. You will see for yourself very soon... the consequence of looking down of us.”

He suddenly vanished and appeared like a ghost behind Yun Che.

It wasn't even a matter of "speed" at this point. It was teleportation using his Yama Devil Art and his connection to the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness... a terrifying teleportation ability with little to no prior warning at all.

The moment Yan Wanchi teleported behind Yun Che, the shadow of a skeleton appeared behind his back. Gathering his maximum power into his claw-like fingers, he launched his arm straight toward the back of Yun Che's heart.

But before his fingers could reach Yun Che, Yan Wanchi suddenly let out a painful scream... it was countless times worse than the scream he made when he was burned by the overlapping sea of flames earlier.

It was because a pure white light was glowing from Yun Che.

The white light of light profound energy.